

On Top Of The News Email: news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel: +297 582-7800 Tuesday, November 19, 2013

MONDAY OF MILESTONES

BERNARD CONDON
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The stock market broke through two milestones Monday before giving up nearly all its gains late in the day. Stocks rose from the opening bell, lifting the Dow Jones industrial average above 16,000 for the first



A board on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange shows the Dow Jones industrial average above 16,000 in intraday trading, Monday, Nov. 18, 2013.

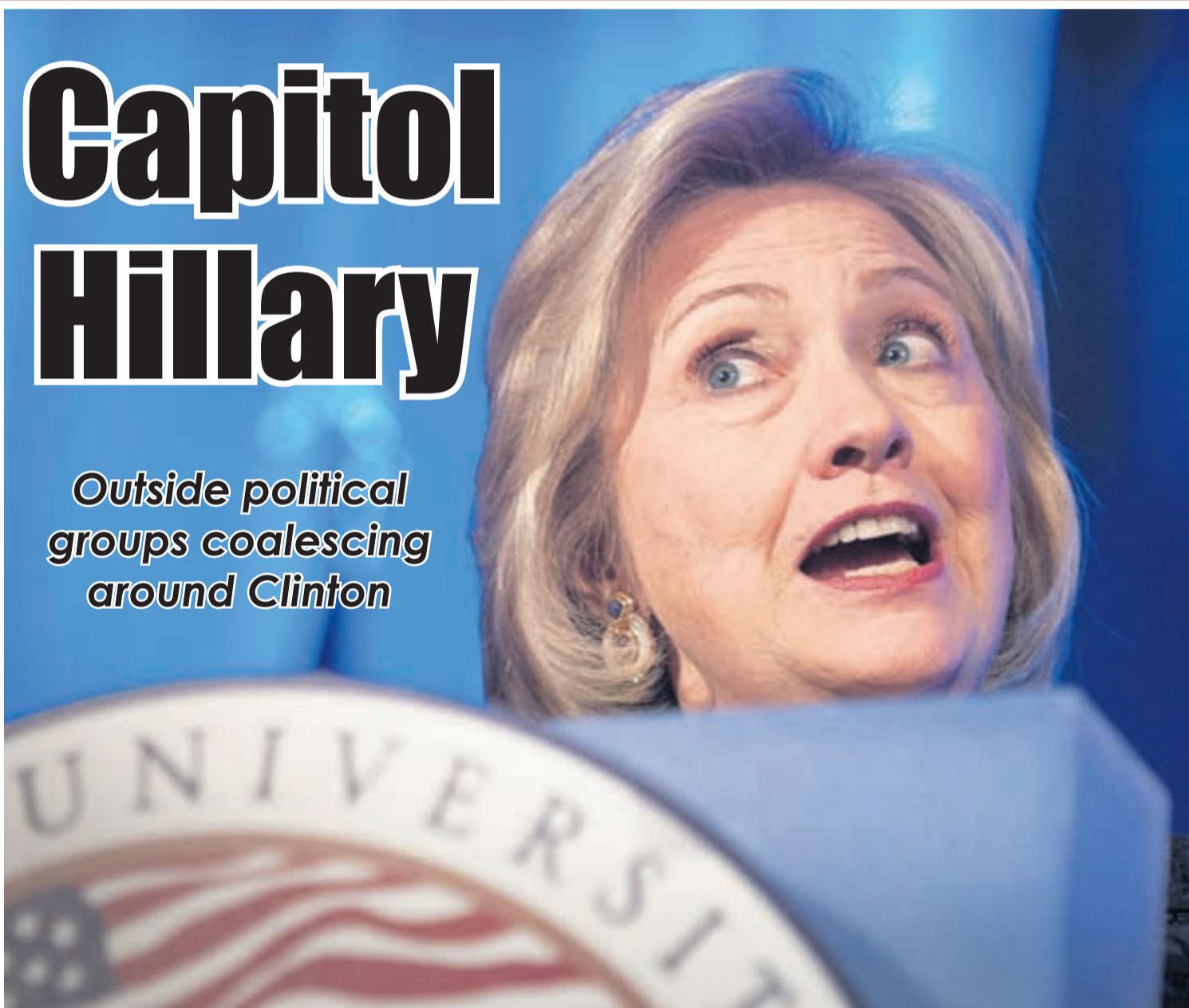
(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

time and the Standard & Poor's 500 index past 1,800, two big markers in a historic bull market. But by the end of day, both indexes had fallen below those levels. "The market is always a little hesitant when it gets to round numbers," says Ed Cowart, managing director at Eagle Asset Management. "You don't want to be the first guy buying at 16,000 on the Dow."

Continued on Page 24

Capitol Hillary

Outside political groups coalescing around Clinton



Former Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton speaking in Washington during a gala dinner at the Ronald Reagan Center. As Hillary Rodham Clinton privately weighs a second White House run, pieces of the Democratic establishment are beginning to fall into place publicly to help a possible candidacy.

(AP Photo/Cliff Owen)

KEN THOMAS
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — As Hillary Rodham Clinton privately weighs a second White House run, pieces of the Democratic establishment are beginning to fall into place publicly to help her possible candidacy. Several super political ac-

tion committees are collectively acting as an early de facto campaign organization to ensure Clinton is ready to compete vigorously if she decides to try again to become the first female president. They're building a network without her direct consent. But she's not objecting either,

and some Democrats are interpreting that as encouragement to push forward in anticipation of a campaign. "There's a lot of energy out there and it would be a mistake not to channel and use it as an opportunity to organize," said Craig Smith, an adviser to Ready for Hillary. The super

PAC American Bridge 21st Century has launched Correct the Record, a group staffed by former Clinton aides who intend to defend the former secretary of state and other potential 2016 candidates against Republican critics.

Continued on Page 3

Photographer shot at French newspaper office

ANGELA CHARLTON
GREG KELLER

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — French police are hunting for a gunman

tacks, which prompted heightened security at media offices and the busy Champs-Elysees shopping avenue, is unclear.

side French bank Societe Generale, and a brief hostage-taking. Authorities released video footage of the suspect. Molins said he was wielding a pump-action shotgun and wearing a black vest, green shoes with white soles, and a cap. Late Monday the suspect's image was emailed to the media to help with the manhunt.

Monday began with a gunman entering the lobby of Liberation around 10 a.m. and opening fire. A 23-year-old photographer, who works at the paper as a freelance assistant, was in intensive care after being shot near the heart and in the arm, Molins told a news conference. The shooting prompted cries of concern about attacks on the media. The culture minister called Liberation — an outspoken left-leaning paper founded by Jean-Paul Sartre that has seen financial difficulties and layoffs in recent years — a “pillar of our de-

mocracy.”

Less than two hours after the shooting at Liberation, three shots were fired in front of the headquarters of the bank Societe Generale in the Paris suburb of La Defense, according to Paris police. Societe Generale, based about 10 kilometers (6 miles) northwest of the Liberation offices, said in a statement that a lone gunman opened fire in front of the building, and no one was hurt.

Less than an hour later, a man called police to say he had been taken hostage by a gunman in the town of Puteaux, next door to La Defense.

Police said the gunman forced his hostage to drive six kilometers (3½ miles) back toward central Paris, then let him go on the Champs-Elysees, a chic and busy shopping thoroughfare.

Police were searching the neighborhood and other sites around the French capital, the Paris police headquarters said. □



Paris prosecutor Francois Molins, right, and Paris Police executive Christian Flaesch, left, present photos from surveillance cameras showing a gunman leaving BFM television headquarters, left, and in a Paris street near Liberation newspaper, right, during a press conference in Paris, Monday Nov. 18, 2013.

(AP Photo/Remy de la Mauviniere)

suspected in a shooting Monday at a Paris newspaper office that gravely wounded a photographer, as well as three other attacks around the nation's capital.

The motive for the at-

Paris Prosecutor Francois Molins said authorities believe a lone gunman was involved in the shooting at the prominent daily newspaper Liberation, a similar incident at news network BFM-TV, a shooting out-

No EU nation candidate to destroy gas

BRUSSELS (AP) — Not a single European Union nation came forward on Monday offering to host the destruction of Syria's poison gas stockpile, with many instead calling for the arsenal to be eradicated close to Syria itself.

Belgium had been considered a strong candidate after the withdrawal of Albania, but Belgian Foreign Minister Didier Reynders said that “we have to find a way to send experts and the technology on site.”

“To transport them over long distances to bring them on our soil — we do not really see how to do that, and not only in Belgium, also in other European states,” Reynders said, highlighting a reluctance found across the 28 EU nations.

“There is no member state that has come forward in saying ‘OK, give us the stuff,’” said Dutch Foreign Minister Frans Timmermans. After Albania refused to take on the task Friday, Belgium — as well as France — had been considered possible candidates, if only because Belgium has a long history of destroying the gas arsenal from World War I.

The Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons has adopted a plan to destroy Damascus' estimated 1,300-ton arsenal, which includes mustard gas and sarin, outside Syria, but has yet to find a country willing to host the risky operation.

“The remaining question is actually where we will be able to find a location,” said U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry said “two alternatives” were being explored, but he didn't say what those might be.

Samantha Power, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, told The Associated Press, “We are just entering the destruction phase” and still looking for a country where Syria's chemical weapons can be destroyed. □

Russia: Video shows near-vertical plane crash

V. ISACHENKOV
V. KONDRASHOV

Associated Press

KAZAN, Russia (AP) — The grainy airport video is dark, short and chilling. Within five seconds, a dot of light that Russian authorities say is a Boeing 737 appears in the sky over the tarmac and plunges to the ground in a near-vertical crash. The result is a blinding fireball.

The video shown Monday by Russian television stations — <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vgGHRMJuxRs> — of Sunday night's horrifying crash at Kazan airport that killed all 50 people on-board raises a host of questions, including why the plane's second attempt to land at night in good weather went so horribly wrong.

Russian investigators combed through the incinerated wreckage Monday after fire crews spent hours extinguishing the blaze. Experts from the NTSB, Boeing

and the FAA were heading to the scene to help.

The Boeing 737 belonging to Tatarstan Airlines was making its second attempt at a landing in Kazan, 720 kilometers (520 miles) east of Moscow, according to Alexander Poltinin, head of the local branch of Russia's Investigative Committee.

The traffic controller at the Kazan airport who contacted the plane before the crash said the crew told him they weren't ready to land as it was approaching but didn't specify the problem.

Marat Zaripov, deputy head of the local branch of the Investigative Com-

mittee, initially told reporters that his team would look into all theories, including a terrorist attack. But the Investigative Committee said in a statement later Monday that it was now considering three possible causes: a technical fault, a pilot error or adverse weather conditions. □



Firefighters and rescuers work at the crash site of a Russian passenger airliner near Kazan, the capital of the Tatarstan republic, about 720 kilometers (450 miles) east of Moscow.

(AP Photo/Russian Emergency Situations Ministry)

Despite surge, many do not see a US stock bubble anytime soon

KEN SWEET

AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Is the U.S. stock market due for a pull-back?

The Dow Jones industrial average has surged 900 points since early October and crossed the 16,000-point threshold Monday. IPOs are hot again. Small investors, stirred from their post-recession daze, are coming back to stocks. And it's been more than two years since the market has had a significant slump.

Those trends have raised concerns of a stock bubble. They shouldn't, money managers say, because even with the broader market's 26 percent jump this year, stocks aren't overpriced yet.

"Stocks are not cheap, but that does not mean that the stock market is expensive," says Russ Koesterich, chief investment strategist with Blackrock.

The ratio of stock prices to projected profits for companies in the Standard & Poor's 500 index is 15, according to data from FactSet. That's slightly below the average of 16.2 over the last 15 years and far below the peak of 25 in late 1990s and early 2000s.

Underneath the rally, most of the fundamentals of this market remain solid. Corporate profit margins are near historic highs and profits are expected to keep rising. There are no signs the U.S. economy, which is still recovering from the 2008 financial crisis and Great Recession, will slip back into a downturn.

All that leaves investors with conflicting feelings. Few see the stock market as attractive as it was at the beginning of the year, but fewer see an alternative where they should put their money.

Bonds are down 2.1 percent this year, according to the benchmark Barclays U.S. Aggregate bond index. Cash has a near-zero return in money market funds. Gold has dropped 24 percent.

"It's hard to say stocks are expensive when you compare them to any other asset class," says Brian Hogan, director of equities at Fidelity Investments. "The other options are simply not attractive."

Bubble or no, there are some signs that stocks are getting pricey.

Then there's the Federal Reserve.

The Fed has been buying \$85 billion in bonds each month in an effort to keep interest rates low and stimulate the economy. Those purchases have pushed up bond prices and made stocks more attractive in comparison.

The Fed was supposed to start pulling back, or "taper" its purchases, in September. But the central bank surprised investors by voting to delay that move. It isn't expected to change course until early 2014, at the earliest.

Critics say the stimulus has driven too many people into stocks and inflated prices.

Janet Yellen, who has been nominated to lead the Fed starting next year, told the Senate Banking Committee last week that the Fed will keep a close eye on the issue, but said stocks "are not in bubble territory."

Still, now may not be the time to jump into stocks, at least in the U.S. Few investors expect the market's gains in 2014 to come close to this year's.

Not all parts of the market are overvalued, according to some investors. Bank stocks are among the cheapest in the S&P 500, based on the ratio of their price compared to projected profits.

"Typically financials benefit from the next stage of a bull market," said J.J. Kinahan, chief market strategist with TD Ameritrade.

Energy and information technology stocks are also relatively inexpensive, when looking at price-to-earnings ratios. □

Zimmerman charged with assault, battery

MIKE SCHNEIDER

Associated Press

APOPKA, Florida (AP) —

A former neighborhood watch volunteer acquitted of fatally shooting an unarmed black teenager earlier this year was charged Monday with assault after his girlfriend accused him of pointing a shotgun at her during an argument, authorities said. George Zimmerman pushed Samantha Scheibe out of the house and barricaded the door with furniture, Chief Deputy Dennis Lemma said at a news conference hours after the arrest. Scheibe provided deputies with a key to the home and they were able to push open the door that had been barricaded.

Lemma said Zimmerman cooperated when deputies came to the house.

"The easiest way to describe it is rather passive. He's had the opportunity to encounter this before," he said.

Zimmerman was charged with aggravated assault with a weapon, battery and criminal mischief.

"Just when you thought you heard the last of George Zimmerman," said neighbor Catherine Cantrell. She said she had twice seen a man who looked like Zimmerman get out of a truck that's been in the driveway for nearly

a month. The truck parked there Monday appeared to be the same one that reporters have seen Zimmerman drive previously.

"I'm in absolute shock. He was never outside. It's not like he was out flaunting around," she said.

Cantrell said the woman who lived in the home was very sweet and quiet.

Sarah Tyler, 26, also lives across the street from the tan stucco house on a cul-de-sac street of single family homes in Apopka, northwest of Orlando.

"It's kind of frightening,"

she said, adding that she only saw a woman come out of the house.

Zimmerman, 30, was acquitted in July of all charges in the shooting of Trayvon Martin. The death of the black teenager, who was unarmed, touched off a nationwide debate about race and self-defense. Zimmerman, who identifies himself as Hispanic, has said he shot the 17-year-old to defend himself during a fight in February 2012 inside a gated community in Sanford, just outside Orlando. □



George Zimmerman leaves the courtroom for a lunch break his trial in Seminole Circuit Court, in Sanford, Fla. A Seminole County Sheriff's Office statement says Zimmerman was arrested Monday, Nov. 18, 2013, after deputies responded to a disturbance call at a house in Apopka, Fla. Zimmerman will be transported and booked into jail.

(AP Photo/Joe Burbank)

Outside political groups coalescing around Clinton

Continued from front

Priorities USA Action, which ran searing ads against rivals of President Barack Obama to support his re-election, is discussing bringing onboard a former White House chief of staff under her husband.

Ready for Hillary, formed after the 2012 elections, is working to keep grassroots supporters around the country energized. And EMILY's List, a group that has 3 million members and supports women candidates who back abortion rights,

has been holding forums promoting the need to elect the America's first fe-

male president.

Democrats have highlighted polls showing that Clinton would be an early favorite for the party's nomination if she sought the White House again.

While this work goes on behind the scenes, Clinton has been staying in the public eye by traveling the country to speak before trade groups and to party supporters.

She also plans to release a book next year about her time at the State Department, giving her a platform to tour nation before the 2014 midterm elections.

On Tuesday, American Bridge and the liberal-leaning Media Matters plan to

hold a daylong conference on in San Francisco, where about 80 prospective donors and financial backers will hear from Smith, former Vice President Al Gore and Democratic strategists James Carville and Paul Begala, longtime advisers to former President Bill Clinton. Carville has promoted a potential Hillary Clinton candidacy, and Begala is a consultant to Priorities USA Action.

An organizer of the San Francisco conference is Susie Tompkins Buell, a co-founder of the Esprit clothing company and a longtime friend of the Clintons who is also a finance co-chair of Ready for Hillary. □



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Officials assess damage from deadly Midwest storms

STEVEN YACCINO

JOHN SCHWARTZ

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PEKIN, Ill. - On Monday, the day after tornadoes caused widespread destruction across parts of this state, Gary and Selena Cleer were looking for what was left.

The Cleers were in church Sunday when a tornado swept through their town, a dozen miles south of Peoria, and took shelter with the congregation in a hallway. When they drove back to the home they had lived in for only

declared seven counties disaster areas.

"As we pray for the families of those who have lost their lives and others who are injured, the state of Illinois will do everything necessary to help these communities recover," Quinn said in a statement.

At least seven deaths had been reported by early Monday. An 80-year-old man and his 78-year-old sister were killed when a tornado struck their farm outside New Minden, about 50 miles east of St. Louis. The man was found

Michigan.

Dozens of people were injured in Washington, a town of 15,000 just east of Peoria. At least 35 people were taken to a hospital with injuries, according to a statement from OSF Saint Francis Medical Center in Peoria. There was also extensive damage in the nearby town of Pekin, which has about 34,000 people.

Officials warned of a fast-moving, deadly storm system Sunday morning and issued tornado watches throughout the day for

the region. At least two of those, including the one that cut through Washington, are likely to be rated EF4, which have winds of at least 166 mph.

The larger storm system, a product of jet stream energy interacting with warm, moist air flowing up from the Gulf of Mexico, generated winds of 80 mph or more. Thunderstorms led to 525 reports of wind damage stretching from eastern Iowa into New Jersey and southern New York and extending as far south as Tennessee.



Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn surveys the damage in the central Illinois community of Washington on Monday, Nov. 18, 2013, that was caused by a tornado the day before. Quinn declared seven Illinois counties as disaster areas after the unusually powerful late-season wave of thunderstorms brought damaging winds and tornadoes to the state.

18 months, Gary Cleer said, "we didn't even recognize our house." Much of the roof was gone, and the garage had been torn way, their battered car sitting amid rubble.

The severe storms that moved through the Midwest on Sunday leveled towns, killed at least six people in Illinois and injured dozens more, and caused power failures for hundreds of thousands of people.

Gov. Pat Quinn of Illinois

in a field about 100 yards from his home, and the woman was found under a pile of rubble, according to the Washington County coroner's office.

One person was killed in Washington, one of the hardest-hit towns, and three others were killed in Massac County in Southern Illinois, according to Melaney Arnold, a spokeswoman for the Illinois Emergency Management Agency. A storm-related death was also reported in

wide areas of Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin. By the time the storms had passed Sunday evening, tornadoes - scores of them, according to the National Weather Service - had left paths of destruction.

The tally of storms and their destruction is still being drawn up, said Bill Bunting, operations chief at the National Weather Service's Storm Prediction Center. There were "on the order of 40 tornadoes" across

(AP Photo/Armando Sanchez)

On Monday, officials were still trying to assess the damage.

In Pekin, the Cleers and their neighbors were sorting through what was left of their homes to see what could be salvaged. Amid the caved-in walls of the Cleers' brick ranch and the debris from other homes - a neighbor's countertop had made its way into their living room - Selena Cleer found a delicate porcelain doll and placed it on a dresser. □

Conservative US students to stage 'immigrant game'

CHRIS TOMLINSON

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — The Young Conservatives of Texas announced Monday they will play a "Catch an Illegal Immigrant Game" this week on the University of Texas at Austin, drawing condemnation from Democrats and stirring passions over an issue that has vexed the border state. The game is planned for Wednesday when club members will wander the campus wearing signs that say "illegal immigrant." Students who capture them and take them to the Young Conservatives' recruiting table will get \$25 gift certificates.

"The purpose of this event is to spark a campus-wide discussion about the issue of illegal immigration, and how it affects our everyday lives," a statement posted by the group's spokesman, Lorenzo Garcia. The group did not immediately reply to several emails sent by The Associated Press.

Students found guilty of violating the honor code could face expulsion, school officials said.

The Texas Democratic Party condemned the game and pointed out that Garcia recently was a paid staffer with Republican Greg Abbott's campaign for governor. The Democratic party has been pushing Abbott to state his position on a Texas law that allows children brought into the U.S. illegally by their parents to receive lower in-state tuition, legislation called the Texas DREAM Act. "While Abbott has said he doesn't support the DREAM Act as it is, he refuses to say what he would change and if he supports it at all," state Democratic chairman Gilberto Hinojosa said. "He must come out and immediately denounce Wednesday's event. This style of hatred and fear is not the type of leadership Texas deserves." □

Cheney sisters spar on same-sex marriage debate

MEAD GRUVER
Associated Press

CHEYENNE, Wyoming (AP) — Former Vice President Dick Cheney and his wife stepped into a sibling squabble Monday after their daughters became involved in a public feud over gay marriage that began on "Fox News Sunday" and soon spread to social media. Discussing her U.S. Senate campaign on the talk show, Liz Cheney restated her support for the "traditional definition" of marriage. She added that states should be free to decide for themselves whether to allow or prohibit same-sex unions.

Her sister, Mary Cheney, who is married to a woman, shot back on Facebook: "You're just wrong." Things got testy enough that their parents were compelled to address the matter.

"This is an issue we have dealt with privately for many years, and we are pained to see it become public," read a statement distributed by Dick and Lynne Cheney.

"Since it has, one thing should be clear," the statement continued. "Liz has always believed in the traditional definition of marriage. She

has also always treated her sister and her sister's family with love and respect, exactly as she should have done."

In Wyoming, scene of the murder of gay university student Matthew Shepard 15 years ago that remains a watershed moment for gay rights, Liz Cheney's stance mirrors the Equality State's own soul-searching on gay marriage.

The heavily Republican state Legislature has swung from close votes just a few years ago on proposals to ban recognition of gay marriages performed in other states to, this year, giving serious consideration to permitting same-sex civil unions and a ban on discrimination against gays.

Liz Cheney's opponent Sen. Mike Enzi says he supports a constitutional amendment to define marriage as between one man and one woman, only.

For her part, Liz Cheney says gay marriage should be a matter for states to decide and supports the "traditional definition" of marriage. But she says she doesn't think states should discriminate against same-sex couples.

She has opposed a federal consti-

tutional amendment to ban gay marriage and supported equal spousal benefits for same-sex couples employed by the State De-

nate against people because of their sexual orientation. If people are in a same-sex relationship, and they want their partner to be able



Liz Cheney, left, speaks during a campaign appearance in Casper, Wyo., and her sister Mary Cheney, right, is seen attending the funeral for former President Gerald Ford in Washington. Liz Cheney is running in a Republican primary for a U.S. Senate seat from Wyoming. She told "Fox News Sunday" on Nov. 17, 2013, she disagrees with her sister Mary Cheney, who is married to Heather Poe, over the topic of same-sex marriage. Mary Cheney responded on Facebook: "You're just wrong." (AP Photo/File)

partment, where she used to work. "I stand by both of those positions," she said on Fox News Sunday. "I don't believe we ought to discrimi-

to have health benefits or be designated as a beneficiary under life insurance, there's no reason we shouldn't do that." □



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Extension of benefits for American jobless set to end

ANNIE LOWREY

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WASHINGTON - Unless Congress acts, during the last week of December an estimated 1.3 million people will lose access to an emergency program providing them with additional weeks of jobless benefits. A further 850,000 will be denied benefits in the first

quarter of 2014.

Congressional Democrats and the White House, pointing to the sluggish recovery and the still-high jobless rate, are pushing once again to extend the period covered by the unemployment insurance program. But with Congress still far from a budget deal and still struggling

to find alternatives to the \$1 trillion in long-term cuts known as sequestration, lawmakers say the chances of an extension before Congress adjourns in two weeks are slim.

As a result, one of the largest stimulus measures passed during the recession is likely to come to an end, and jobless workers in

many states are likely to receive considerably fewer weeks of benefits.

In all, as many as 4.8 million people could be affected by expiring unemployment benefits through 2014, estimated Gene Sperling, President Barack Obama's top economic adviser.

"Historically, there has not been a time where the

unemployment rate has been this high where you have not extended it," Sperling said in an interview. "Why would you not extend now, when you're dealing with the nearly unprecedented levels of long-term unemployment coming off such a historic recession? This would be the wrong time to do it."

Democrats are pushing for an extension of the emergency insurance program as part of the broader budget talks designed to avert a repeat of the government shutdown in October. But negotiators in the House and Senate are discussing a relatively small deal focused on replacing or altering the sequestration cuts, which would probably not include an extension of the jobless program. Both Republicans and Democrats are skeptical that even such a small deal is possible given how divided the parties are.

Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., chairwoman of the Budget Committee, "clearly supports the policy, is interested in doing it and is hopeful there will be a path in this budget conference," said a senior Democratic aide with knowledge of the discussions. "She will continue to work with Republicans to see if it's possible in this deal." Republican aides declined to discuss the talks. But Rep. Paul D. Ryan, R-Wis., the House budget chairman, "is committed to finding common ground," said William Allison, a spokesman. "He hopes both parties can work together to cut spending in a smarter way." The end of the emergency program would come as the economy is improving, if slowly. □

Justice Dept official admonishes US bankers

PETE YOST

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Admonishing America's bankers, the Justice Department's No. 2 official says too many financial institutions have failed in their duty to ensure that their businesses are run cleanly. "Despite years of admonitions by government officials that compliance must be an important part of a corporation's culture, we continue to see significant violations of law at banks, inadequate compliance programs, and missed opportunities to prevent and detect crimes," said Deputy Attorney General James Cole.

Cole said that "too many bank employees and supervisors value coming as close to the line as possible, or even crossing the line" as signs of being competitive or aggressive. "And we are troubled that many employees believe that their supervisors, including in some cases corporate management, actually want them to behave this way."

Cole's remarks come amid an international probe by the Justice Department and other law enforcement agencies here and

abroad into possible manipulation of foreign exchange rates at a number of financial institutions.

"You will be hearing more about these investigations

Financial Conduct Authority, the British regulator, is investigating its trading on the foreign exchange market.

Cole received a polite re-



Deputy Attorney General James Cole testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington.
 (AP Photo/Susan Walsh)

in the future," Cole promised in regard to the investigation of banks both in the U.S. and abroad.

Citigroup, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Barclays PLC, UBS AG and Deutsche Bank AG have revealed they are the subjects of an investigation into possible manipulation of currency trades. In the same probe, HSBC PLC, Europe's biggest bank by market value, disclosed that the

ception from members of the American Bankers Association and the American Bar Association at the conference, which dealt with enforcement of laws against money laundering. Now in his fifth year in the job, Cole's boss, Attorney General Eric Holder, has come in for strong criticism because the government has failed to bring criminal cases against major Wall Street bankers in the wake

of the financial crisis. In a tentative civil settlement with the government, JPMorgan has agreed to pay \$13 billion — \$6 billion to compensate investors, \$4 billion to help struggling homeowners and the remainder as a fine. A criminal probe of JPMorgan is pending.

In a blunt reference to conduct by some of the nation's biggest banks, Cole said "too many supervisors seem to incentivize excessive risk-taking — knowing that risky products can be unloaded down the road, or anticipating that they will have left for another bank by the time such risks are played out, leaving someone else to deal with the consequences." In the run-up to the financial crisis of 2008, Goldman Sachs, Citigroup, JPMorgan and others were all involved in sales of low-quality, high-risk securities linked to mortgages that later collapsed in value.

The currency-trading probe echoes in complexity the ongoing investigation into manipulation of the London interbank offered rate, or LIBOR. LIBOR underpins trillions of dollars in transactions around the world. □

US Financial Front: American homebuilder confidence steady in November

ALEX VEIGA

AP Real Estate Writer

U.S. homebuilders' confidence in the housing market held steady this month, but many are worried that another fight over the federal budget could cause would-be buyers to put off home purchases.

The National Association of Home Builders/Wells Fargo builder sentiment index released Monday stayed at 54 this month. October's reading was revised one point lower from its initial estimate.

Readings above 50 indicate more builders view sales conditions as good, rather than poor.

The index has stayed above 50 now for six straight months after being below that level since May 2006. It has held steady, even as mortgage rates have come off their record

lows and home sales have slowed. Those readings suggest most builders are still optimistic that the housing recovery will endure.

But the trade association noted Monday that many consumers are holding off on buying a home because of concerns over another looming budget fight in Washington. Lawmakers reached a temporary agreement last month to reopen the government after a 16-day partial shutdown, but another potential shutdown looms.

"Policy and economic uncertainty is undermining consumer confidence," said David Crowe, the NAHB's chief economist.

Builder confidence took a hit in October because of the shutdown. Some buyers found it harder to close on their mortgages.

The budget impasse end-



Workers build a new home in Pepper Pike, Ohio. National Association of Home Builders released positive housing market data for November, on Monday, Nov. 18, 2013.

(AP Photo/Tony Dejak)

MF Global to pay \$1.21B restitution

WASHINGTON (AP) — MF Global Inc. must pay back \$1.21 billion to ensure customers recover their losses sustained when the brokerage firm failed in 2011.

The restitution is being levied following a complaint filed by the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission earlier this year that alleges MF Global unlawfully used customer funds for the firm's needs in its final weeks. MF Global Holdings, the New York-based parent company, imploded in October of 2011 after making big bets on bonds issued by European countries that later turned sour. When it collapsed, more than \$1 billion in customer money was discovered to be missing. It was later discovered that the funds were used to pay for the

company's own operations. With \$41 billion in assets, it was the eighth-largest corporate bankruptcy in U.S. history.

The commission said Monday that a federal court has approved the consent order for the fine for customer repayment.

MF Global also faces a \$100 million civil penalty that must be paid after it has fully paid customers and certain creditors.

MF Global admitted in the consent order that it is liable for some of the allegations pertaining to the acts and omissions of its employees as set forward by the CFTC. The commission is still involved with litigation against MF Global Holdings Ltd. as well as former company leaders Jon Corzine and Edith O'Brien. □

ed with only a temporary agreement to fund the government through Jan. 15. Lawmakers also agreed to allow the government to continue borrowing normally until Feb. 7.

Those deadlines coincide with the traditional start of the spring home-selling season, the traditional

peak period for home sales.

The builders' group did not flag higher mortgage rates as a concern this month. Rates rose sharply over the summer in anticipation of the Federal Reserve possibly reducing its bond purchases. Since then, sales of existing homes have

slowed.

But mortgage rates began falling again in September after the Fed surprised markets by voting to keep buying \$85-billion-a-month in bonds. Those purchases are intended to keep long-term interest rates low, which include mortgage rates. □

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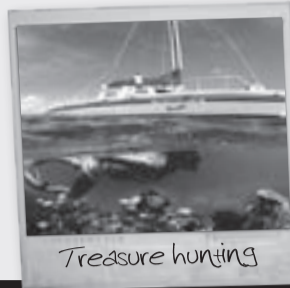
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Syrian rebel leader dies after government attack

ANNE BARNARD
KARAM SHOUMALI

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BEIRUT - A Syrian rebel leader who brought together

Assad in the country's civil war has died of wounds suffered Thursday in a government attack on a meeting of rebel leaders outside

the rebels amid a gathering government offensive as diplomats pursue efforts to convene international peace talks.

was also known as Hajji Marea, was taken to Gaziantep over the Turkish border after he was wounded in the attack at the rebel-held infantry school on the outskirts of Aleppo. Another rebel commander was also wounded and a third was killed in the attack, which was described in varying reports as an airstrike or a government raid on the building. Saleh had been seen as an exemplar of the kind of anti-government leadership emerging from Syria's civil war and as one of the government's most wanted men, with a sizable bounty on his head. His death provoked outpourings of passionate mourning on his followers' social media sites and on YouTube. A battalion commander from Tawhid, Hassan Abdulsamie Najjar, said in an interview that Saleh died in Turkey on Thursday after being wounded in the chest, but his death was kept secret until he could be buried late Sunday in his hometown, Marea. Others said the death was concealed to maintain morale.

Saleh, a merchant and former army conscript, had organized many local fighting groups to form the Tawhid Islamic brigades, supported by Qatar. Anti-government activists said he would be succeeded by Mohammed Hamadeen, 38, a former Syrian army officer from Aleppo, but that was not confirmed by the Tawhid Brigade.

The insurgent Free Syrian Army said Saleh, 33, was married with five children. Before Syria's uprising began in March 2011 with peaceful protests, he had served as a conscript in a chemical weapons unit of the Syrian army. Like others in the movement opposed to Assad, the Free Syrian Army said, Saleh first organized "peaceful activity and demonstration" in his hometown before taking up arms.

The Free Syrian Army said Saleh enjoyed broad popularity "but there were some reservations" among the citizens of Aleppo when his forces entered the city "for fear of the strong response of the Syrian regime." □



Abdulkader al-Saleh, commander of the Tawhid Brigade (also known as Hajji Marea), in Aleppo, Syria, January, 2013. Saleh, whose faction was among the most organized fighting Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, died of wounds suffered on Nov. 14 in a government attack on a meeting of rebel leaders outside Aleppo, his followers said Nov. 18.

(Tyler Hicks/The New York Times)

one of the most effective and organized factions fighting President Bashar

Aleppo, his followers said Monday. His death was seen as a serious blow to

The leader, Abdul-Qadir Saleh, who commanded the Tawhid Brigade and

Fuel removal starts at Japan's crippled nuclear plant

HIROKO TABUCHI

© 2013 New York Times

TOKYO - The operator of the crippled Fukushima Daiichi power plant Monday began removing nuclear fuel assemblies from a storage pool atop one of the site's blown-out reactor buildings, a delicate yet critical operation that could help reduce risks at the plant.

The Tokyo Electric Power Co. released frequent updates about its progress Monday, when it extracted four of the 1,533 fuel assemblies that lie in a pool of water at the plant's No.

4 reactor.

That reactor, along with three others, was heavily damaged by hydrogen explosions in the early days of the accident, triggered by the enormous earthquake and tsunami of March 2011. The state of the No. 4 reactor has been a particular concern because all the fuel at the unit, which was shut down for checks when the crisis hit, lies inside a spent-fuel pool that is perched on the damaged reactor's upper floors. Experts had warned that leaving the fuel as-

semblies atop a structurally compromised building was extremely dangerous.

Over the past months, TEPCO has focused on devising a plan to place the fuel assemblies in a steel cask, which will be lifted out of the water and transported by trailer to a more secure fuel pool on the ground. To prevent the nuclear fuel assemblies from overheating, engineers must keep them covered with water.

On Monday morning, workers lowered the cask into the spent fuel pool. They then used a crane to extract the first fuel assembly

from racks inside the pool and transferred the assembly into the cask.

By Tuesday, engineers will transfer 21 more fuel assemblies into the cask before they lift it out of the water and onto a trailer. Naomi Hirose, the president of TEPCO, called the start of the work at the No. 4 unit a milestone in a cleanup and decommissioning process that is expected to take decades.

TEPCO hopes to finish removing fuel from the No. 4 reactor pool by the end of next year.

"The extraction process

represents the beginning of a new and important chapter in our work," Hirose said in a statement.

But Japan's nuclear regulator has pointed out that the process also poses some risks.

If damaged or left uncovered, the fuel assemblies could overheat or emit large amounts of radiation. Another difficulty is that engineers could have trouble extracting the fuel assemblies from storage racks in the pool, which is strewn with debris that might cause some assemblies to jam. □



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Google, Microsoft block child abuse web search results

SYLVIA HUI

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Google and Microsoft have introduced software that makes it harder for users to search for child abuse material online, the companies said in a joint announcement Monday.

Writing ahead of a British summit on Internet safety, Google's executive chairman Eric Schmidt said his company has fine-tuned Google Search to clean up results for over 100,000 search terms. When users type in queries that may be related to child sexual abuse, they will find no results that link to illegal content.

"We will soon roll out these changes in more than 150 languages, so the impact will be truly global," Schmidt wrote in the Daily Mail newspaper.

The restrictions are being launched in Britain and other English-speaking countries first. Similar changes are being brought out on Microsoft's Bing search engine.

The two companies are sharing picture detection technology to identify child abuse photographs whenever they appear on their systems, and Google is also testing technology to identify and remove illegal videos.

Other measures include warnings at the top of Google search for more than 13,000 queries to make it clear that child abuse is illegal.

Schmidt acknowledged that no algorithm is perfect and Google cannot prevent pedophiles adding new images to the web. Campaigners welcomed the move but doubted how much impact the changes would bring. □

Palestinians committed to 9 months of peace talks

KARIN LAUB

Associated Press

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP) — The Palestinians will stay in peace talks with Israel for the planned nine months despite their fierce opposition to Israel's settlement building, the Palestinian president said Monday.

The remarks by Mahmoud Abbas came at a news conference with visiting

diplomats saying at the time they envision a deal within nine months. Since then, Israel has announced plans for thousands more settlement apartments, sparking Palestinian outrage.

Abbas confirmed on Monday that his chief negotiator, Saeb Erekat, submitted his resignation at one point, but said he hasn't accepted it so far.

getting the sides back to the table.

Under Kerry's terms, the Palestinians agreed not to seek an upgrade of their status at the U.N. or membership in additional U.N. agencies for the duration of the talks, while Israel agreed to release 104 long-held Palestinian prisoners in several stages.

However, Kerry failed to

Netanyahu, speaking at the podium just before Hollande, called on the Palestinian president to address the Knesset and said he would go to Ramallah. "Let's break the stalemate," Netanyahu said.

"In order for peace to be real it has to be a two way street," Netanyahu said. "You cannot ask the Jews to recognize a Palestinian national state without demanding from the Palestinians that they recognize the national state of the Jewish people," he said.

In his earlier remarks in Israel, Hollande said settlements "complicate" the negotiations. In the West Bank, he adopted tougher language. "France opposes settlements, calls for halting the settlements because they complicate the negotiations and make a two-state solution difficult," Hollande said at his news conference with Abbas.

The Palestinians hope to establish a state in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and east Jerusalem, territories Israel captured in the 1967 Mideast war.

In previous negotiations, the sides raised the idea of using the 1967 lines as a starting point for border talks and allowing for small land swaps that would enable Israel to keep some of the settlements. Netanyahu says he is not bound by understandings reached in previous negotiations and rejects using the 1967 lines as a base point. □



Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, left, and French President Francois Hollande inspect an honor guard at the Palestinian Authority headquarters in the West Bank city of Ramallah, Monday, Nov. 18, 2013. (AP Photo/Nasser Nasser)

French President Francois Hollande, who urged Israel to halt settlement construction on lands the Palestinians seek for a future state.

Israeli-Palestinian negotiations on the terms of a Palestinian state resumed in late July, with U.S. me-

He reiterated his opposition to settlement building, but said that "we are continuing the negotiations for nine months."

Israeli-Palestinian negotiations had broken down for nearly five years, and U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry spent several months

win a pledge from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu to halt settlement construction as part of the ground rules for talks. Hollande reiterated his position on peace talks in a speech to Israel's parliament, the Knesset, Monday evening.

Trial begins over UK soldier's murder in London

LONDON (AP) — Two men accused of killing a British soldier in an apparent Islamic terrorist attack on a London street appeared in court on Monday as their trial began.

Michael Adebolajo, 28, and Michael Adebowale, 22, were shot by police and placed under armed

guard in a hospital after the May 22 attack on Lee Rigby, an off-duty soldier who was run over by a car, then stabbed repeatedly while walking back to his military barracks in southeast London.

The two men appeared at London's Old Bailey Court on Monday, as

about three dozen activists protested against Islamic violence outside the building.

Adebolajo — who has asked to be known as Mujaahid Abu Hamza in court — wore a black button-down shirt. Adebowale — who has asked to be known as Ismail

Ibn Abdullah — wore a cream-colored sweater. The two have denied killing Rigby and the other charges of attempting to murder a police officer and conspiracy to murder a police officer on or before May 22.

The trial was adjourned until Thursday. □

Anti-government protesters march in Haiti

EVENS SANON
Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Thousands of critics of Haiti's President Michel Martelly staged protest marches on Monday that turned violent as people threw rocks and shots were fired in the air. The marches were among the biggest demonstrations against Martelly since he took office in 2011, and the crowd in the capital swelled as protesters passed each neighborhood. Their complaints ranged from the cost of living to high levels of corruption. Protesters lit fiery

barricades of discarded tires on one of the busiest streets as they called for Martelly's departure from office. Demonstrators also tore down posters and billboards bearing the leader's face and burned those too. Pro-Martelly groups held separate marches, and the two sides took turns throwing rocks at each other as riot police dispensed canisters of tear gas. "We are moving forward to removing him from power and won't stop until he leaves," said demonstrator Jean Daniel. Martelly, his prime minister, Laurent Lamothe, and the

first lady attended a church ceremony in the northern city of Cap-Haitien, the site of another, smaller protest on Monday, a national holiday that commemorates Haiti's final battle before it secured independence from France in 1804. In a speech that followed at a historic site where the fight apparently took place, Martelly appealed for unity. "If we didn't put our heads together, we wouldn't have had the Battle of Vertieres," he said. "If we didn't have our heads together, we wouldn't have a Haitian state." The U.N. peacekeeping mis-

sion in Haiti on Saturday urged Martelly and opposition parties to sort out their differences in a peaceful manner. The world body also dispatched armed troops for the demonstration to join riot police with shields and helmets. The mounting tension between Martelly and his opponents stems in part from the government's failure to hold legislative and local elections that are two years overdue. The U.N., U.S. and others have pressured officials to organize the vote before year's end, but it most likely won't happen until next year. □

Cuban cardinal departs church leaders body

A. RODRIGUEZ
Associated Press

HAVANA (AP) — Havana Archbishop Jaime Ortega, Cuba's only cardinal, has left the leadership council of the island's Catholic Bishops' Conference in a move seen as a prelude to the 77-year-old prelate's eventual retirement. The bishops met last week to name the body's members, and for the first time in years Ortega is not on it. Santiago Archbishop Dionisio Garcia was renamed as its president, according to a statement published on the website of the Bishops' Conference.

Ortega submitted his resignation in 2011 as is customary for bishops when they turn 75. So far neither Pope Francis nor predecessor Benedict XVI has accepted his resignation.

Jose Felix Perez, adjunct secretary of the Bishops' Conference, called it a routine step because of the cardinal's age.

For bishops, resigning often doesn't mean complete retirement. It's common for clerics of Ortega's age and prominence to be transferred to posts in the Vatican.

Ortega was made cardinal in 1994 and successfully negotiated modest openings for the Church in a country that for years was officially atheist.

He oversaw the historic 1998 visit by Pope John Paul II and the 2012 trip by Benedict.

But some dissidents have criticized him for not taking a more confrontational stance toward the Communist-run government.

His style has tended toward quietly negotiating with authorities. In recent years he was key to a deal under which the last of 75 government opponents still behind bars after a 2003 crackdown were released. Most went into exile in Spain, though some remain in Cuba.

Enrique Lopez Oliva, an expert on the Church at the University of Havana, said if the church hews to past precedent, Garcia will likely be transferred from Santiago, the country's second-largest city, to the Havana diocese and elevated to cardinal whenever Ortega's resignation is accepted. □

Bachelet wins Chile vote, but reforms in peril

LUIS ANDRES HENAO
MICHAEL WARREN
Associated Press

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — Michelle Bachelet nearly doubled her conservative rival's votes in the first round of Chile's presidential election, but her center-left coalition fell short of the gains in Congress needed to keep many of her promises.

The moderate Socialist, who was Chile's first female president from 2006 to 2010, beat nine candidates in Sunday's vote and is widely expected to win a Dec. 15 runoff over her childhood friend, Evelyn Matthei. With nearly all ballots counted Monday, Bachelet had 47 percent of the vote to Matthei's 25 percent.

Bachelet, 62, has vowed to raise corporate taxes to fund a sweeping overhaul of the education system that now puts quality schooling out of economic reach for many.

She also favors legalizing abortion in some cases, says she wants to "open a debate" on gay marriage and hopes to overhaul the electoral system and constitution imposed by the 1973-1990 dictatorship of Gen. Augusto Pinochet.

Sunday's vote put some of those reforms within her grasp, but she may have to negotiate on others, at the risk of angering supporters and reviving the angry

street protests that marked the past two years.

Bachelet's New Majority coalition has the votes in Congress needed to raise taxes, but it lacks the super-majorities of 60 percent to change the electoral system or 67 percent to change the constitution. Education reform would require 57 percent ap-

proval in Congress, and it appears that Bachelet has that number as long as she can count on Camila Vallejo and three other student protest leaders newly elected to the legislature. The key may be their willingness to compromise. The vision of education reform they fought for in the

streets could be watered down to meet the demands of the centrist edge of Bachelet's wide-ranging coalition, which pulls together centrist Christian Democrats and Communists, veteran politicians and street protesters.

"I can't see elected students voting against reform, but they also won't

tests that could damage her popularity.

"We'll just have to see if the Communist Party is on board with negotiating with the right or if it turns its back and jumps off the victory wagon," said Bernardo Navarrete, a University of Santiago political scientist. "The big tension for Bachelet will be how the Com-



Chile's former President Michelle Bachelet shakes hands with supporters one day after general elections in Santiago, Chile, Monday, Nov. 18, 2013. Bachelet, Chile's first female president from 2006 to 2010, is widely expected to win a Dec. 15 runoff over her childhood friend, Evelyn Matthei.
(AP Photo/Luis Hidalgo)

munist Party behaves." Bachelet began campaigning just hours after the vote results were announced. She visited a poor neighborhood in Santiago on Monday and called for a big victory in the runoff that would force the left and right to swing into line behind her. □

endorse something they don't want," said Marta Lagos, head of the Mori polling company. "So the dispute is also going to be in the fine print not the reform." Already, the Communists are vowing to keep "one foot in the street" to press for change. That might mean rowdy pro-

munist Party behaves." Bachelet began campaigning just hours after the vote results were announced. She visited a poor neighborhood in Santiago on Monday and called for a big victory in the runoff that would force the left and right to swing into line behind her. □

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Zimbabwe president Mugabe declares he's no British clone

ANGUS SHAW
Associated Press

HARARE, Zimbabwe (AP) — Zimbabwe's longtime President Robert Mugabe says he doesn't want anyone to be fooled by his impeccable Western style of dress and his precise, teacherly use of English: He is African through and through. "I am not British, I am not a colonial product because I am a complete Zimbabwean," he told graduates at Great Zimbabwe University near the remains of the 13th Century walled city, for which Zimbabwe, the former colony of Rhodesia, is named.

Addressing the students earlier this month, Mugabe had typically harsh words for Africa's former white rulers. "They think their right is to rob others of their resources," he said. But black Africans have the right to their own natural wealth and must "remain true" to local values after centuries of colonial rule that brought foreign cultures to the continent, he added. The ascetic, austere Mugabe is a tough critic of the West, but he has been described as an anglophile and is known as a stickler for ceremony and detail. At the graduation, he wore a sash, robe and mortarboard, academic regalia used in some of Britain's most conservative universities.

Mugabe warns, however, that his Western appearance can deceive. He said the nation's former British colonizers thought he admired all things British and had a British "way of thinking." After Zimbabwe's independence in 1980, "they said publicly the problem with Mugabe is that he thinks like us," said the 89-year-old former

teacher who was handed power as Zimbabwe's first black leader by heir to the British throne Prince Charles and the departing British colonial governor in 1980.

"Goodness me! How can I think like them?" said Mugabe. "I would be a rotten thinker to think like them."

But he does dress like them, and requires other Zimbabweans to do so, too. Since 1980, Mugabe has insisted on a strict suit and tie dress code among ministers and lawmakers in the Harare parliament. The former guerrilla leader quickly abandoned Chinese-style Mao jackets in favor of tailored business suits with color-coordinated neckties, breast pocket handkerchiefs and matching accessories, sometimes including flowers in the buttonhole of his lapel.

Other post-colonial African presidents have observed Western dress codes but few as elegantly as Mugabe. President Kamuzu Banda of Malawi, who died in 1997, appeared in three-piece suits and a homburg hat but always carried an African chief's flywhisk, made of lion's hair. Jomo Kenyatta of Kenya switched between regular suits and leopard skin shoulder wraps and headgear and also habitually carried a flywhisk. Former South African President Nelson Mandela broke the mold, preferring bright batik-style casual shirts, even on formal occasions.

Until Western travel and banking bans were imposed on Mugabe and his party leaders to protest human and democratic rights violations about a decade ago, Mugabe regularly visited the upscale Harrods department store in Lon-



In this 2012 photo, Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe and his wife Grace attend 32 years of independence celebrations in Harare.

(AP Photo)

don's Knightsbridge district and Savile Row in Mayfair, the home of Britain's best bespoke tailors. Now he takes vacations in Malaysia and Hong Kong, Asian clothing and tailoring hubs, and shops on trips to United Nations meetings in New York and Geneva which

are excluded from the travel bans.

At the annual state opening of parliament, Mugabe rides in a vintage British convertible Rolls Royce, escorted by police on horseback wearing colonial-style pith helmets carrying upright lances bearing flags

and service insignia. The nation's judges attend the ceremony in scarlet robes, wearing traditional British wigs of bleached horsehair in the parliament house originally built as a copy of the British House of Commons legislature at Westminster, London. □

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Qatar 2022 enforces welfare standards for workers

ROB HARRIS
AP Sports Writer

LONDON (AP) — Companies building projects for the 2022 World Cup will be forced to guarantee welfare standards for workers, Qatari organizers pledged Monday in response to

said they informed Amnesty about the formation of a worker welfare committee, and plan to publish workers' welfare standards by next month.

The organizing committee, Qatar 2022, said the standards will be aligned with

World Cup supreme committee said in a statement. Amnesty cataloged how some workers in the tiny Gulf nation are exposed to dangerous working conditions, poor standards of accommodation and the non-payment of wages.

recruitment agencies and the companies that utilize them," the statement said. Amnesty's study was published around a week after FIFA President Sepp Blatter visited the emir of Qatar to share FIFA's concern about working conditions after



FIFA President Sepp Blatter, right, shakes hands with Sheik Mohammed bin Hamad al-Thani, chairman of Qatar 2022 bid committee, at a press conference in Doha, Qatar. Companies building projects for the 2022 World Cup will be forced to guarantee welfare standards for workers, Qatari organizers pledged Monday in response to a critical report alleging abuses.

(AP Photo/Osama Faisal)

a critical report alleging abuses. The rights group Amnesty International on Sunday condemned human rights abuses in Qatar, cataloging the alleged exploitation of migrant workers building the infrastructure required for football's showpiece tournament.

Following discussions about the report on Sunday, Qatar's World Cup organizers

Qatari law and international best practices and "set clear guidelines from recruitment to repatriation."

"Compliance with the law and Q22's standards will be a contractual obligation for companies working on Q22 projects and will be transparently and robustly monitored through a three-tier compliance and auditing structure," the

World Cup organizers pointed to Amnesty acknowledging how they are taking positive steps to "ensure contractors uphold human rights standards."

"The responsibility for the welfare of workers is shared by all parties involved in the chain of contracting including the government of Qatar, the governments of sending countries, re-

newspaper investigations highlighted alleged human rights abuses and deaths in the extreme heat.

FIFA wrote to Amnesty to express hopes that by taking the World Cup to the Middle East for the first time it can be the catalyst for social change, including an "improvement of labor rights and conditions for migrant workers." □

Dutch watchdog warns of autopilot plane landing risk

MIKE CORDER

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands

(AP) — A Dutch safety watchdog issued a warning Monday about a potential risk when planes using autopilot and an airport's automated landing system approach a runway at too steep an angle. The Dutch Safety Board said that airport Instrument Landing Systems can give planes flying on autopilot inaccurate information.

The board said that's what happened during a May 31 incident at Eindhoven Airport in the Netherlands this year during which a plane narrowly avoided stalling just before landing. The board's warning, sent to aviation officials around the world, says that if a plane approaches a runway at greater than a three-degree angle, the airport system could tell the autopilot to raise the plane's nose, increasing risk of a stall.

An antenna type called "M-array" was a common factor in three incidents the board analyzed — in Eindhoven and similar situations at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport in 2011 and at Charles de Gaulle Airport in Paris last year.

"The M-array ILS antenna type is used around the world," the board said in its warning. It did not mention any manufacturers of such antennas. The three incidents mentioned by the safety board and a test it carried out involved aircraft from four different manufacturers.

The board said that pilots should be aware of "the dangers accompanying flying in the area above the three-degree glide path during the approach" to landing. "This is a pilot awareness issue and it is fixable," said John Cox, an aviation safety consultant and former US Airways pilot. "I would call it a moderately big deal. It is something that needs to be out there and pilots need to be aware of it." The Dutch board said a wrong signal was sometimes present at a six-degree angle of descent and always at a nine-degree descent. □

Russian court frees 2 Greenpeace members on bail

IRINA TITOVA
Associated Press

ST. PETERSBURG, Russia (AP)

— A Russian court on Monday ordered two Greenpeace crew members released on bail but kept another one in jail following a protest against oil drilling in the Arctic.

The three were among 30 people on a Greenpeace ship seized by the Russian coast guard on Sept. 18.

The judge in St. Petersburg on Monday ordered the

release of freelance photographer Denis Sinyakov and ship doctor Yekaterina Zaspas on bail of 2 million rubles (\$61,500) each, but declined to free Australian Greenpeace activist Colin Russell.

Investigators had asked St. Petersburg courts to extend the detention period of all 30. Hearings for others on the Greenpeace boat are expected in the coming days.

During similar hearings two

months ago, the rulings were the same in all 30 cases.

The Russians arrested everyone on board the ship, including cooks and journalists documenting the protest, after a few environmental activists tried to scale an offshore drilling platform owned by Russian state energy giant Gazprom.

All 30 were charged with hooliganism, which carries a maximum sentence

of seven years. They were initially charged with piracy, a more serious offense, but investigators said those charges would be dropped.

"I haven't done anything wrong," Russell, 59, told the court, adding that he did not understand why he had been detained.

Judge Alla Yermakova refused him bail, saying he could flee the country, and ordered him held until Feb. 24. □



A Festive Welcome To The Holidays - Paseo Herencia Style!



ORANJESTAD - For many islanders, holiday season truly arrives with the tree-lighting event at Paseo Herencia Mall in Palm Beach, when the Plaza Padu puts on its fancy dress. This year, on Friday, November 15, it was accompanied by a full evening of live entertainment, compliments of the mall and TeleAruba TV show "Magico di Pasco" (The Magic of Christmas) which broadcast live from the mall.

Aruban TV personalities Siomara Everon and Edjean Semeleer welcomed all visitors in three languages. The stunning holiday trees that adorn the mall's main plaza were officially lit at 9:00 PM, a dramatic start to the show.

The traditional Gaita singing show featured the popular group "Las Unicas" introducing their fourth CD

collection of holiday songs. Also adding to the festive ambiance prior to the broadcast was the Gaita group Melodia.

This year marks the golden anniversary of Aruba's first, and for many years, only TV station, TeleAruba, Channel 13. During the televising of the holiday event at Paseo Herencia, TeleAruba Managing Director Toko Winklaar paid homage to

one of the pioneers of local programming in Papiamentu, Robby Schouten. For nearly 30 years he has been following the lives of Aruban students attending universities in Holland with his program "Leu Foi Cas" (Far From Home,) usually greeting them as they arrive on their life's journey. He has reported regularly on their daily activities, involvement in



special events and occasions, as well as arranging tours of Europe for them and family, allowing those back home on the island of Aruba to share their grand adventure and experiences. Current shows are on the Internet at <http://www.caribbeaninternettelevision.net> Visitors to the mall enjoyed not only the normally delightful welcome of holiday cheer the mall hosts annually, but a true slice of island life, explained

to them in their native languages by the congenial hosts. The nearly 50 shops attractively displayed their seasonal inventory, showcasing anything and everything from artistic and original handicrafts to glamorous dress-up outfits for four-legged family companions. Residents and vacationers enjoyed this very special evening equally, deeming it a perfect way to become infused with the holiday spirit! □

Freewinds hosts successful "Public Affairs Convention" in Aruba



ORANJESTAD - The Freewinds welcomed an international group of passengers to its annual "Public Affairs Convention" in Aruba recently. Guest

speakers for the convention arrived in the port of Oranjestad in a parade of vintage cars from the Classic Car Club Aruba lead by bikers from the Nos Cu



Nos chapter. The speakers were escorted by Miss Teen Aruba International 2nd Runner Up, Stephanie de Andrade, 1st Runner Up, Geraldine Vidal and Miss Teen Aruba International, Chysah Verstappen. After welcoming the guests to the one happy island of Aruba, Miss Verstappen officially announced the opening of the convention. All guests were then treated to a presentation of a Michael Jackson dance performed by Alex Wever, and a salsa dance by Jimmy Tromp and Fran-

ces Rodriguez. This year the Freewinds is celebrating the 25th Anni-

versary of its maiden voyage having made over 700 calls to Aruba since 1988. □



Beauty On The Beach

Sandra Santelmo

Living in Barcelona España She was born in Venezuela and her parents are born in Italy She works as a dentist in Spain. And this is her third visit in Aruba she is on vacation staying at a friends house

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A POEM

For The One I Love, Maggy Castano

NOVEMBER/2013

The morning every day looks just like my nights every day
And when at noon I try to look i see the same as in the morning

And the nights, all is quiet and seems empty
All is not the same

And the remembrance of your voice
And the memory of your love comes to my mind
Invading it with feelings
That only you can trigger

And in fact the loneliness and emptiness of my nights and days becomes even bigger
When I look around and you are not there.

And my heart and soul go on asking where you are
And when would you be there again

Years and years have passed in our lives
And in as much that there is evil
So many beautiful moments overwhelms my been

And some hints of happiness arise to fill my empty heart
And my chest goes crazy and my heart pounds
And my breath Shortens.
Words cannot come out

And all that... just because I LOVE YOU.

**Author: German German Castano,
Owner of The Blue Lobster Restaurant** □

Flora & Fauna: The Shoco is Aruba's national symbol

ORANJESTAD - Aruba has its own owl, a bird which is not larger than about eight inches, but that is so unique to the island that it is allowed to bear the name 'Athene Cunicularia Arubensis.'

Burrowing owls on Aruba are so special that they belong to an endemic subspecies, a variety found nowhere else in the world in this way. The subspecies Aruban Burrowing Owl has a small body - about 7.9" in length - with long legs and a flat facial disc typical of the owl family.

The body is buffy-colored with the upper-parts being brown with white spots. Under parts are light brown to white with some brown spotting and barring. It is much paler than subspecies on the continent.

The Aruban Burrowing Owl feeds on insects and rodents which it typically

hunts for from the ground, walking, hopping or running after it. It is known on occasion to locate prey from a high perch and to catch prey with its feet.

The Aruban Burrowing owl was made one of Aruba's National Symbols in February 2012.

It also appears on Aruba's postal stamps and currency.

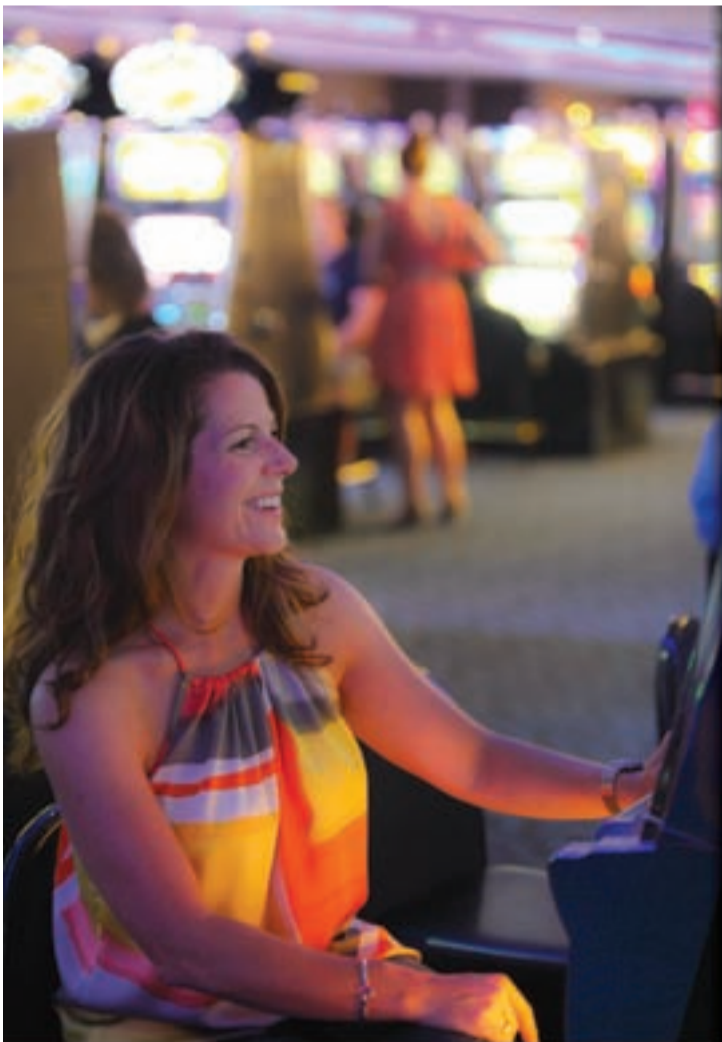
Burrowing owls get their common name from their unusual habit of nesting underground in already dug-out burrows, although they are known to occasionally dig out their own. When the breeding season is over, the owls continue to use their burrow to rest during the day.

The Shoco's population has greatly diminished in the last few decades and is now locally endangered, with estimates of less than 200 pairs remaining.

- Photo by Rossi Wauben. □



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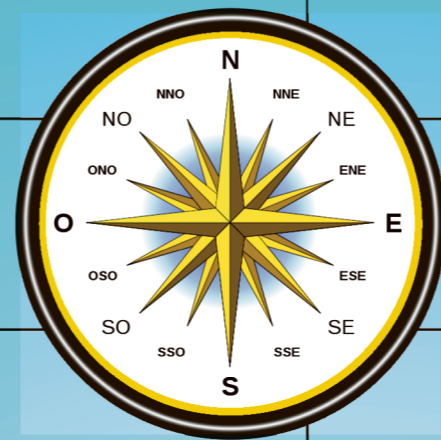
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Blazers push run to 6, top Raptors in OT

The Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — LaMarcus Aldridge and Damian Lillard each scored 25 points, and Nicolas Batum added 24 as the Portland Trail Blazers won their sixth straight game with a 118-110 overtime victory over the Toronto Raptors on Sunday.

Lillard was 3 for 3 from the floor in the extra period as the Blazers escaped after blowing a 17-point lead in regulation.

Rudy Gay forced overtime with a buzzer-beating lay-up and tied a season high with 30 points to go with 10 rebounds. DeMar DeRozan scored 29 points and Jonas Valanciunas added a season-high 19.

The Blazers made a season-high 15 3-pointers, finishing 15 for 32 from beyond the arc. Toronto made just three.

LAKERS 114, PISTONS 99

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Jordan Hill had career highs of 24 points and 17 rebounds,



Sacramento Kings forward Chuck Hayes, left, and Memphis Grizzlies guard Tony Allen scramble for the ball during the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game in Sacramento, Calif., Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013. The Grizzlies won 97-86.

Associated Press

and Jodie Meeks and Nick Young scored 19 points apiece in the Lakers' victory over Detroit.

Steve Blake had nine points and 16 assists for the Lakers, who made a late surge for just their second victory in six games. Los Angeles scored 16 consecutive points in a rally spanning the third and fourth quarters, holding Detroit without a field goal for more than five minutes.

Brandon Jennings scored 23 points and Andre Drummond had 14 points and 13 rebounds for the Pistons, who have lost five of six. Detroit has lost 38 of its last 40 road games against Western Conference teams.

GRIZZLIES 97, KINGS 86

SACRAMENTO, California

(AP) — Zach Randolph scored nine of his 22 points in the fourth quarter and also had 10 rebounds to lead Memphis over Sacramento.

Continued on Page 21



Tuesday, Oct. 1, 2013 file photo, New York Yankees' Alex Rodriguez arrives at the offices of Major League Baseball, in New York.

Associated Press

BOCA RATON, Florida (AP)

— A Florida police department says it has reopened an investigation into the theft of documents related to Major League Baseball's inquiry into whether Alex Rodriguez used perfor-

mance enhancing drugs. Boca Raton police officer Sandra Boonenberg said Monday the investigation was reopened several weeks ago based on new information stemming from Rodriguez's lawsuit against MLB.

Fla. police investigating theft of A-Rod documents

Boonenberg offered few details on the open investigation but said detectives have "a lot of leads that they're pursuing."

The documents were stolen in March from the car of Porter Fischer, who took them from Biogenesis of America, the now-closed Florida anti-aging clinic where he worked.

The clinic and its owner, Anthony Bosch, have been accused of providing banned performance-enhancing drugs to Rodriguez and other major leaguers. Bosch agreed to cooperate with baseball's investigators, and baseball

Commissioner Bud Selig on Aug. 5 suspended the New York Yankees third baseman for 211 games for alleged violations of the sport's drug agreement and labor contract.

The players' association filed a grievance in an attempt to overturn the penalty.

ESPN, citing unidentified sources close to the investigation, reported last week that MLB impeded the Florida investigation.

"MLB investigators knowingly purchased stolen documents in their quest to allow Commissioner Selig to act, for the first time, as

if he was tough on PED use in baseball despite striking a cooperation deal with Anthony Bosch who MLB knows is under federal investigation for providing steroids to minors," Jordan Siev, one of Rodriguez's lawyers, said in a statement.

MLB has repeatedly denied the accusation.

"The truth continues to be that we did not knowingly purchase stolen documents and there is an active police investigation to determine if the documents were in fact stolen," the commissioner's office said in a statement. □

8 relatives of golfer Jason Day die in typhoon

DENNIS PASSA

AP Sports Writer

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Australian golfer Jason Day needed to pause to compose himself several times when he spoke Monday about the deaths of eight of his relatives, including his grandmother, in Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines.

"They found, I think, eight of our relatives. Six of them were children, and my grandma, and a couple more," Day said after practicing at Royal Melbourne, where he's scheduled to play at the World Cup as part of Australia's team with Adam Scott beginning Thursday. "It's such a tragedy, I feel for my mother."

Day said the most difficult part was not being able to contact his relatives, many of whom lived in the area around Tacloban, the capital of hardest-hit Leyte province. The typhoon has killed nearly 4,000 people and left more than a thousand missing.

"It's been toughest on my mother, there's been no communication," Day said as he stood next to the 10th green at Royal Melbourne. "Everything got wiped out in the

area around where my grandma and my relatives lived. The only way we could communicate with anyone was with our relatives in Manila through Facebook. They did the searching."

Day's mother, Dening, migrated to Australia from the Philippines 30 years ago.

In an earlier statement released by the PGA Tour, Day said he was deeply saddened the deaths of his relatives.

"My family and I are thankful for all who have reached out with their prayers and concern," he said. "We feel devastated for all who have been affected by this horrific tragedy. Please pray for all who have suffered loss. Thank you."

Day is playing at Royal Melbourne as Australia's second-highest ranked player at No. 20. Scott is No. 2 and the Australian pair is among the favorites for the tournament which has team and individual components.

Day, who has had a five-week break before the World Cup, is entered to play in the Australian Open at Royal Sydney next week. □



Australian golfer Jason Day comments to journalists at Royal Melbourne golf course in Melbourne, Australia, Monday, Nov. 18, 2013. Day has confirmed that eight of his relatives died in Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines, including his grandmother.

Associated Press

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Scrivens, Toffoli lead Kings over Rangers

The Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Ben Scrivens made 37 saves in his second consecutive shutout and Tyler Toffoli's second-period goal held up as the winner as the Los Angeles Kings completed a successful Eastern road trip with a 1-0 victory over the New York Rangers on Sunday.

Dominic Moore thought he tied it with 2:41 remaining, but the goal was disallowed because he kicked it in with his right skate.

Scrivens, filling in for injured regular Jonathan Quick, followed up a blanking of New Jersey on Friday with one against the Rangers. Los Angeles went 3-0-1 on the trip, winning the final three games.

Scrivens has gone 155 minutes, 2 seconds without allowing a goal over three games. Los Angeles is 5-0-1 in its last six.

Henrik Lundqvist stopped 29 shots in the hard-luck loss. The Rangers, 7-3 in their last 10, failed to follow up on a 1-0 win at Montreal on Saturday and dropped their second straight at home.

BLACKHAWKS 5, SHARKS 1
CHICAGO (AP) — Patrick Sharp scored two goals, including one on a third-period penalty shot, and Kris Versteeg had a goal and an assist to lead Chicago



Ottawa Senators' Zack Smith (15) collides with Columbus Blue Jackets' R.J. Umberger during second-period NHL hockey game action in Ottawa, Ontario, Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013.

Associated Press

over San Jose.

Jonathan Toews and rookie Brandon Pirri also scored for the Blackhawks, who rebounded with a tidy defensive effort following a 7-2 loss in Nashville on Saturday.

Joe Pavelski connected for San Jose.

Versteeg scored his first

goal with the Blackhawks since being reacquired from Florida on Thursday.

Corey Crawford stopped 23 shots and wasn't heavily tested in the win.

CAPITALS 4, BLUES 1

WASHINGTON (AP) — Alex Ovechkin won the head-to-head matchup between the NHL's two leading goal

scorers, getting a pair in the first period to move into a tie with Alexander Steen in Washington's win over St. Louis.

Ovechkin's 16th and 17th goals led the Capitals to their third straight win and seventh in nine games. Mikhail Grabovski and John Carlson also scored for

Washington, Nicklas Backstrom had three assists, and Braden Holtby made 46 saves.

Ovechkin and Steen are two of the NHL's hottest forwards playing for two of the league's hottest teams, but the Capitals cruised after dominating early, scoring on three of their first six shots against Jaroslav Halak.

Vladimir Sobotka scored in the second period for the Blues, who had won eight of 10. St. Louis was playing for the third time in four nights, including a back-to-back after a home win over Carolina.

The Blues took a season-high 47 shots compared to 20 for the Capitals.

BLUE JACKETS 4, SENATORS 1

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP) — Ryan Johansen, R.J. Umberger and Fedor Tyutin each had a power-play goal to lead Columbus over Ottawa.

Derek MacKenzie also scored for Columbus (7-10-3), and Sergei Bobrovsky stopped 30 shots.

Erik Karlsson scored the lone goal for the Senators (8-8-4) in the third period. Craig Anderson made 18 saves.

The ugly game got even uglier after Ottawa's Mark Borowiecki caught Jared Boll with his head down in the third. James Wisniewski quickly came to his teammate's defense and fought Borowiecki. The two were tossed from the game.

WILD 2, JETS 1

ST. PAUL, Minnesota (AP) — Mikko Koivu scored two goals, including the winner with 3:12 remaining, as Minnesota extended its winning streak to four games by beating Winnipeg.

Josh Harding made 21 saves for his 12th victory.

The Wild have an eight-game point streak (7-0-1) and pulled into second place, two points behind Chicago, in the Central Division. They also extended their home winning streak to six and are 10-1-2 at home.

The Jets had a four-game winning streak snapped. □

Montana expects Dolphins scandal to be resolved

BEIJING (AP) — San Francisco 49ers great Joe Montana says the controversy involving Miami Dolphins' duo Jonathan Martin and Richie Incognito will work itself out.

The Hall of Fame quarterback was at the Great Wall of China on Monday on a tour to promote American football in a country where few are familiar with the sport.

Montana said bullying was common in the NFL, although more information is needed to determine what exactly happened between Martin and Incognito. □



Former NFL football player Joe Montana, left, gives a lesson to children during an NFL promotional event in Shanghai, China, Saturday, Nov. 16, 2013. Montana is in China as a special guest for the University Bowl V Championship.

Associated Press

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LeBron has talks with David Beckham about Miami MLS club



"David has become a good friend of mine over the last few years. And I think it would be great for this city to have a football club for sure. So there's interest on both sides, but it's preliminary talks. There (is) some open dialogue."

The Associated Press first reported last month that Beckham, the former England international who ended his playing career in the American professional league, decided to start an MLS expansion club in Miami. Several matters, however, must first be taken care of, including league approval.

Beckham scouted some Miami locations last week — for at least the second time — and is looking for investors. Beckham, who played for the Los Angeles Galaxy in MLS, has the right to pay \$25 million to start an expansion franchise.

But the overall startup costs would far exceed that amount when factoring in other costs such as stadium construction and player acquisitions.

"The research is still being made out," James said. "I think it could be huge. But you never know. I think this is a great town for soccer. There's a lot of soccer players, there's great youth soccer players here and people love the city as well. So that definitely would help."

South Florida has had an MLS team in the past — the Miami Fusion played in Fort Lauderdale, Florida from 1998 to 2001, before shutting down because of poor attendance. But it's surely conceivable that Beckham's star power could make MLS more viable in Miami, and aligning with James certainly will help. □

NBA Capsules

Continued on Page 21

The Grizzlies led by 20 points in the third quarter and survived a second-half rally by the Kings to win their second straight on their four-game road trip that includes tough games Monday against the Clippers and Wednesday at Golden State.

Marc Gasol had 19 points, nine assists and eight rebounds for the Grizzlies. Mike Conley also had 19 points and nine assists, and Tony Allen added 12 points.

Travis Outlaw scored a season-high 18 points for the Kings, who have lost two straight and seven of eight. Isaiah Thomas added



Detroit Pistons forward Greg Monroe, center, battles for a rebound with Los Angeles Lakers center Jordan Hill, right, and center Pau Gasol, of Spain, during the first half of an NBA basketball game Sunday, Nov. 17, 2013, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

ed 15 points and Marcus Thornton had 12. DeMarcus Cousins, who came

into the game averaging 22.8 points, had nine points in 19 minutes. □

Miami Heat's LeBron James, right, looks to drive past Charlotte Bobcats' Bismack Biyombo, left, during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Charlotte, N.C., Saturday, Nov. 16, 2013.

Associated Press

MIAMI (AP) — LeBron James has had "preliminary talks" with David Beckham about possibly bringing a Major League Soccer team to Miami.

The talks were first reported in the British media and confirmed by the basketball star after the Miami Heat's practice Monday.

"There's some interest on both sides," said James, who already has a small ownership stake in the English club Liverpool through his involvement with Fenway Sports Management.

Armstrong: UCI head planned Tour doping cover-up

GRAHAM DUNBAR
AP Sports Writer

Lance Armstrong claims former International Cycling Union president Hein Verbruggen instigated a cover-up of his doping at the 1999 Tour de France. Armstrong told Britain's Daily Mail newspaper in an interview published Monday that Verbruggen insisted "we've got to come up with something" to explain his positive tests for a banned corticosteroid. Cycling's governing body, the UCI, appeared to ignore its own anti-doping rules when it accepted Armstrong's backdated prescription for a cream to treat saddle sores.

That allowed Armstrong to continue in the race and he went on to win the first of his seven Tours, helping revive the sport after doping scandals wrecked the 1998 Tour.

"The real problem was, the sport was on life support," Armstrong was quoted telling the newspaper. "And Hein just said, 'This is a real problem for me, this is the knockout punch for our sport ... so we've got to come up with something.' So we backdated the prescription."

Though Armstrong has acknowledged the prescription excuse in a television interview with Oprah Win-



In this July 11, 2009 file photo, American seven-time Tour de France winner Lance Armstrong, left, and Rinaldo Nocentini of Italy, wearing the overall leader's yellow jersey, right, climb towards Col de Port, France, during the 8th stage of the Tour de France cycling race over 176.5 kilometers (109.7 miles) with start in Andorra and finish in Saint-Girons, France.

Associated Press

frey, he had not previously linked Verbruggen or other UCI officials with a cover-up.

Verbruggen, who served as UCI president until 2005, did not respond to phone messages on Monday.

The Dutch official, who is still listed by the UCI as its honorary president, has long denied any collusion with Armstrong despite widespread claims the American rider was protected.

Verbruggen was granted honorary membership by

the IOC in 2008 after 12 years' service, and will complete his duties as chairman of the Olympic Broadcasting Service after the Sochi Winter Games in February.

The IOC responded cautiously to Armstrong's allegations. "It is hard to give any credibility to the claims of a cyclist who appears to have misled the world for decades," the Olympic body said in a statement Monday. "That said, the UCI is currently working

on plans to investigate the matter more thoroughly and we await proper considered outcomes from this investigation rather than on rumor and accusation."

Armstrong spoke out while the UCI is in the process of creating an independent commission that will examine alleged official collusion, and he is expected to be the star witness.

Armstrong, who is seeking a reduction in his lifetime ban, told the Daily Mail that he would reveal details of

how the UCI operated.

"I have no loyalty toward them," he said. "In the proper forum I'll tell everyone what they want to know. I'm not going to lie to protect these guys. I hate them. They threw me under the bus."

In October 2012, the UCI decided not to challenge a U.S. Anti-Doping Agency verdict to strip Armstrong of his Tour titles and ban him for life. Verbruggen's successor, Pat McQuaid, said the disgraced rider deserved to be forgotten by the sport.

The UCI has been led since September by British official Brian Cookson, who defeated McQuaid in a presidential election where the Armstrong case and cycling's doping past were central issues.

In a statement Monday, the UCI said its commission would "invite individuals to provide evidence."

"We would urge all those involved to come forward and help the Commission in its work in the best interests of the sport of cycling," the governing body said. "This investigation is essential to the well-being of cycling in fully understanding the doping culture of the past, the role of the UCI at that time and helping us all to move forward to a clean and healthy future."

NY man, 32, dies in Bahamas at freediving contest

JAKE PEARSON
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A 32-year-old New York City man who broke the U.S. constant weight record for freediving soon after beginning his competitive career last year died Sunday while participating in a tournament in the Bahamas, police said.

Nicholas Mevoli, who lived in the city's Brooklyn borough, died around 2 p.m. off the coast of the Bahamas' Long Island, about 164 miles (265 kilometers) southeast of the capital of Nassau, officials said. His body was flown to Nassau, where an autopsy was expected.

The Switzerland-based Association Internationale pour le Développement de l'Apnée, or AIDA, a worldwide federation for breath-holding diving, released a statement Sunday saying Mevoli reached the 72-meter depth of the no fins dive, swam back to the surface but had difficulty breathing while completing surface protocol and lost consciousness.

"Nick appears to have suffered from a depth-related injury to his lungs," the AIDA statement said.

Freedivers, unlike scuba divers, enter the water without air tanks, regulators and hoses and swim to various depths relying entirely

on the air held in their lungs. Mevoli's uncle, Paul Mevoli, said Sunday his nephew was a free spirit who grew up loving swimming and got hooked on diving as an 8-year-old boy on trips to the Florida Keys,

where he would spearfish and dive for lobsters.

"Nobody could do what he did under the water," said Paul Mevoli, 55, a dentist in St. Petersburg, Fla.

It would take Nicholas Mevoli about 2 minutes and 45 seconds to dive down and back up 300 feet (91.4 meters) of water in just one breath, his uncle said.

"He was very talented," said Paul Mevoli. "Even the people in the freediving

world couldn't believe his skill."

Nicholas Mevoli was a Florida native who worked in the television industry in New York and was writing a screenplay about a young man on a boat and his adventures in the Florida Keys, his uncle said.

William Trubridge, organizer of the tournament, said Mevoli was trying to break a record for the deepest "Constant No Fins" freedive at the International Free Diving Competition, a nine-day contest that organizers say brought 56 divers from 21 countries.

They were competing for a \$20,000 prize as they tried to see who could dive the

deepest without fins.

The event was canceled after Mevoli's death, Trubridge said.

Mevoli was an accomplished freediver, winning or placing highly in various international freediving tournaments,

including the top prize in the Deja Blue competition in Curaçao earlier this year and a silver medal in constant no fins at the AIDA Depth World Championship in Greece, according to the AIDA.

The Bahamas competition took place at Dean's Blue Hole, which at 663 feet (202 meters), is considered the world's deepest underwater sinkhole in seawater.

Google to pay \$17M to settle Safari privacy case

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

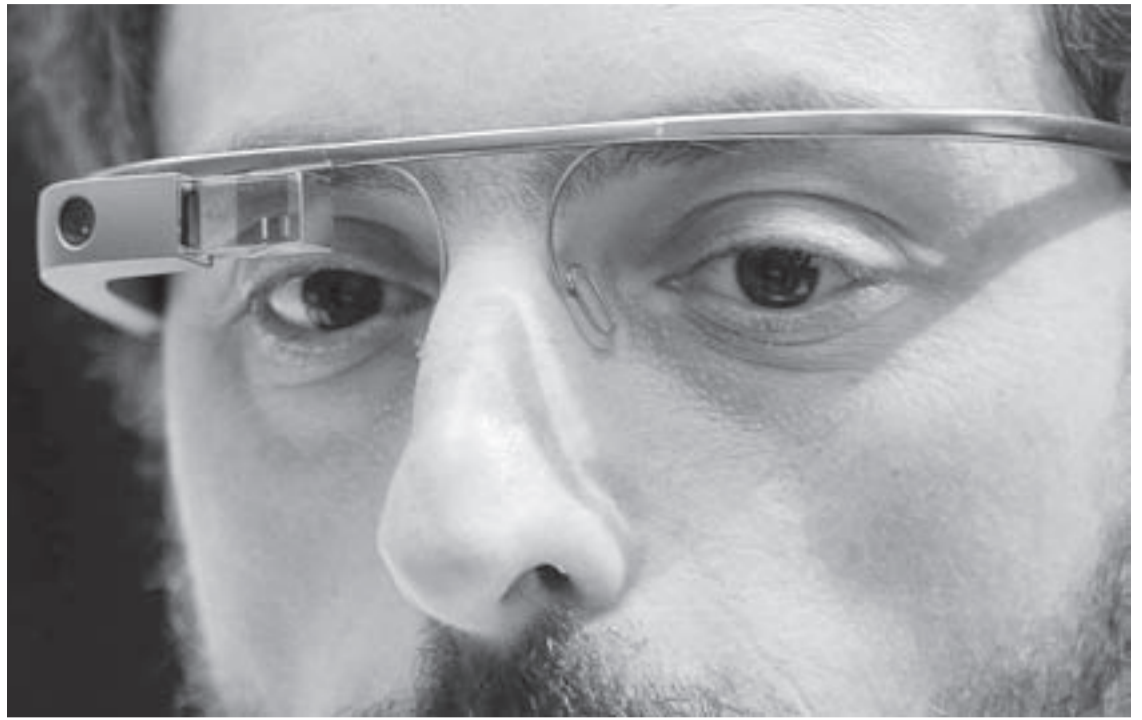
**AP Technology Writer
SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Google is paying \$17 million to 37 states and the District of Columbia to make amends for the Internet search leader's snooping on millions of people using Safari Web browsers in 2011 and 2012. The settlement announced Monday stems from a technological loophole that enabled Google's DoubleClick advertising network to shadow unwitting Safari users, even though the browser's maker, Apple Inc., prohibited the tracking without obtaining a person's permission. By following what Safari users were doing online, Dou-

bleClick could gain more insights about what types of ads were most likely to appeal to different Safari users.

This is the second time that authorities in the U.S. have cracked down on Google for its secret shadowing of Safari users from June 2011 through mid-February of last year. The Federal Trade Commission fined Google \$22.5 million last year. It represented the largest penalty that the FTC had ever collected for a civil violation.

Google Inc. has maintained the Safari intrusion was an inadvertent side effect of an attempt to make it easier for people to recommend ads.

The Mountain View, Cali-



Google co-founder Sergey Brin wears a Google Glass device in San Francisco on Wednesday, Feb. 20, 2013.

Associated Press

Yahoo vows to encrypt all its users' personal data

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

**AP Technology Writer
SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Yahoo is expanding its efforts to protect its users' online activities from prying eyes by encrypting all the communications and other information flowing into the Internet company's data centers around the world. The commitment announced Monday by Yahoo Inc. CEO Marissa Mayer follows a recent Washington Post report that the National Security Agency has been hacking into the communications lines of the data centers run by Yahoo and Google Inc. to intercept information about what people do and say online. Yahoo had previously promised to encrypt its email service by early January. Now, the Sunnyvale, California, company plans to have all data encrypted by the end of March to make it more difficult for unauthorized parties to decipher the information. Google began to encrypt its Gmail service in 2010 and has since introduced the security measure on many other services. The

Mountain View, California, company has promised to encrypt the links to its data centers, too. A Google engineer said that task had been completed in a post on his Google Plus account earlier this month, but the company hasn't yet confirmed all the encryption work is done.

Other documents leaked to various media outlets by former NSA contractor Edward Snowden this year have revealed that Yahoo, Google and several other prominent technology companies, including Microsoft Corp., Facebook Inc. and Apple Inc., have been feeding the U.S. government some information about their international users under a court-monitored program called PRISM. The companies maintain they have only surrendered data about a very small number of users, and have only cooperated when legally required.

The NSA says its online surveillance programs have played an instrumental role in thwarting terrorism.

The increased use of encryption technology is aimed at stymieing govern-

ment surveillance that may be occurring without the companies' knowledge. Even when it's encrypted, online data can still be heisted, but the information looks like gibberish without the decoding keys.

"I want to reiterate what we have said in the past: Yahoo has never given access to our data centers to the NSA or to any other government agency," Yahoo CEO Marissa Mayer wrote in a Monday post on the company's Tumblr blog.

Facebook also has said it's cloaking its social networking network with greater encryption, but hasn't publicly set a timetable for getting all the added protection in place.

Debunking the perception that the NSA and other U.S. government agencies can easily vacuum up potentially sensitive information about people's online lives is important to Yahoo, Google and other Internet companies because they need Web surfers to regularly use their services so they can sell more of the digital ads that bring in most of their revenue. □

fornia company disabled the surveillance coding, known as "cookies," in February 2012 after the violation of Safari's privacy policies was initially reported. Until the problem was uncovered by a graduate student at Stanford University, Google had assured Safari users that they wouldn't be monitored, as long as they didn't change the browser settings to permit the tracking.

"Misrepresenting that tracking will not occur, when that is not the case, is unacceptable, as this settlement emphasizes," Wisconsin Attorney General J.B. Van Hollen said. Google isn't acknowledging any wrongdoing in the settlement. That's the same position that Google took when it paid the FTC fine last year.

"We work hard to get privacy right at Google and have taken steps to remove the ad cookies, which collected no personal information, from Apple's browsers," the company said in a Monday statement.

"We're pleased to have worked with the state attorneys general to reach this agreement."

The settlement will be divided among the participating states and the Dis-

trict of Columbia.

The rebuke from the states is primarily a public relations blow to Google, whose privacy controls have suffered other lapses in recent years. In perhaps the most glaring privacy breach, a Google engineer installed a program that enabled company cars taking pictures of street scenes to scoop up personal data being transmitted over unprotected Wi-Fi networks. The company also exposed the contact lists of Gmail users in 2010 when it launched a now-defunct social networking service called Buzz.

The settlement won't put much of a dent in Google's finances. After stripping out the company's advertising commissions, Google's revenue this year is expected to be about \$47 billion, according to analysts surveyed by FactSet. According to that estimate, it would take Google slightly more than three hours to generate \$17 million in revenue on an average day.

Besides paying the fine, Google also is agreeing to maintain a special page devoted to cookies for the next five years and refrain making any misleading statements about its online tracking practices. □

Stocks hit round-number milestones, then slip

Continued from front

The Dow managed to eke out a gain over Friday's close with a late push higher, ending just 24 points shy of 16,000. Both the Dow and the S&P 500 are on track for their best year in a

financial Services, a wealth manager. "There's much more confidence in the market."

The Dow has risen for six weeks straight and is up 22 percent so far this year. The market hasn't risen that much in a whole year since

amounts to buy stock, more companies going public for the first time and Main Street investors putting money into the market after years of pulling out.

"Greed is taking over from fear," McMillan says.

It's not clear whether stocks

the Great Depression have averaged 57 months, according to S&P Capital IQ, a research firm, however the duration of bull markets has varied greatly over time. The bull market of the 1990s lasted 113 months, for instance.

Investors have been betting that Fed stimulus policies are not likely to change soon. Janet Yellen, the nominee to succeed Ben Bernanke as Fed chairman, indicated in congressional testimony last week that she was prepared to keep interest rates low to help the economy.

Investors were also encouraged by a Chinese government announcement late Friday that it plans to open state industries to greater competition and allow more foreign investment.

Many big U.S. companies have come to rely on emerging markets like China to boost revenue. About half of the revenue in the S&P 500 comes outside the U.S.

The S&P 500 closed down 6.65 points, or 0.4 percent, at 1,791.53. The Dow rose 14.32 points, or 0.09 percent, to 15,976.02.

The Nasdaq composite fell 36.90 points, or 0.9 percent, to 3,949.07.

Among stocks making big moves, Boeing rose \$2.28, or 1.7 percent, to \$138.36, the biggest gain in the Dow. The plane maker booked \$100 billion in orders at the opening of the Dubai Airshow. □



A board on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange shows the Dow Jones industrial average above 16,000, Monday, Nov. 18, 2013. The DJIA crossed 16,000 points for the first time early Monday and the Standard & Poor's 500 index crossed 1,800 points.

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

decade and have soared more than 140 percent since bottoming out in the Great Recession more than four years ago.

Investors have pushed stocks up sharply this year as the U.S. economy improves, companies report record profits and the Federal Reserve keeps up its easy-money policies.

"The Fed is still pumping money into the system, which is helping fuel the market," says Frank Fantozzi, CEO of Planned Fi-

2003.

The Dow has closed above round-number milestones two times this year: 14,000 in early February and 15,000 in early October.

The quick climb has led some experts to wonder whether stocks are too high and set to tumble.

Brad McMillan, chief investment officer for Commonwealth Financial, says he's not worried yet, but notes three ingredients of market froth are already present: investors borrowing record

have become expensive yet or are just fairly priced. One measure of value, the ratio of stock prices to forecast earnings, is at 15 for S&P 500 companies. That is slightly below the 15-year average of 16.2, according to FactSet, a data provider.

Including this year's gains, the S&P 500 is up 165 percent from the start of the current bull market in March 2009, 56 months ago.

Bull markets dating back to

Aberdeen to takeover Lloyds fund management

PAN PYLAS

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — Shares in Aberdeen Asset Management PLC surged Monday after the company struck a deal with Lloyds Banking Group PLC that analysts say will make it Europe's biggest independent fund manager. In a statement, Aberdeen said it will buy Lloyds' asset management unit Scottish Widows Investment Partnership for around 550 million pounds (\$885 million) in shares.

In return, Lloyds — still around one-third owned

by the British government following a bailout — will get a 9.9-percent stake in Aberdeen. The two will also form a long-term strategic partnership whereby Aberdeen will manage assets on behalf of Lloyds.

Lloyds said it will be a "supportive" shareholder and has committed to maintain its initial shareholding in Aberdeen for at least a year, and a third of it for at least three years.

Aberdeen could make a further 100 million pounds cash payout to Lloyds over five years if certain perfor-

mance criteria are met. The sale, which is expected to be completed early next year following the necessary regulatory approval, does not include Scottish Widows, Lloyds' life, pensions and investment business. "We are confident that this transaction will deliver considerable additional value to our expanded client base and this will therefore benefit our shareholders," said Martin Gilbert, Aberdeen's chief executive.

Investors cheered the prospect of another 136 billion

pounds worth of funds being added to Aberdeen's current portfolio of around 200 billion pounds. Aberdeen shares closed 14.7 percent higher at 490 pence in London.

"After the completion of this acquisition Aberdeen Asset Management will become the largest fund management firm in Europe," said Alastair McCaig, an analyst at IG.

For Lloyds, McCaig said the deal is another step the bank has taken to "reorganize its portfolio of exposure." □

Facebook striving for relevance

JENNA WORTHAM

VINDU GOEL

NICOLE PERLROTH

© 2013 New York Times

When Evan Spiegel peered into a crystal ball to divine a future for his company, Snapchat, he did not see Facebook.

He saw something else, something much bigger - a social network that could exist on its own, outside Facebook.

Facebook is still the dominant social media service, and has been an attractive suitor for many small start-ups. And Snapchat most likely spurned Facebook partly because it thought it could fetch much more than the billions Facebook was willing to pay.

But the snub also fore-shadows a possible future where Facebook is no longer the default place on the Web where people go to network. The swift rise of upstarts like Snapchat in a rapidly shifting social media landscape suggests a changing reality for how - and where - people like to spend their time.

Despite the site's primacy in the social media market, some numbers suggest that Facebook addiction has given way to Facebook fatigue, at least among some users. A study by the Pew Internet and American Life Project found that the majority of users have at one point or another taken a multiweek break from the service, citing the tedium and irrelevancy of its content. Among the crucial younger demographic - users ages 18 to 29 - that propelled Facebook into prominence, 38 percent said they expected to spend less time using the site this year.

The survey confirmed what some at the company knew. In its latest quarterly call with investors, Facebook said the youngest users were spending less time on the service.

For any company as large as Facebook, finding new sources of growth is a challenge. □

Foreign holdings of U.S. Treasury debt rises up 1%

MARTIN CRUTSINGER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Foreign buyers of U.S. Treasury securities increased their holdings in September, suggesting many shrugged off budget battles in Washington to keep investing in U.S. debt. Total foreign holdings rose 1 percent September to \$5.65 trillion, the Treasury Department reported Monday. That follows a 0.03 percent gain in August.

Holdings had fallen from April through July, possibly reflecting concerns about rising interest rates. In September, holding were 1.2 percent below the record high of \$5.72 trillion reached in March.

China, the largest foreign buyer of Treasury debt, boosted its holdings 2 percent in September to \$1.29 trillion. Japan, the second-largest buyer, increased its holdings 2.5 percent to \$1.18 trillion.

An impasse over the budget led to a 16-day partial shutdown of the federal government in October. And lawmakers didn't reach an agreement to raise the nation's borrowing limit until Oct. 16 — one day before a deadline that, if compromised, would have increased the risk of a default on U.S. debt. The government reopened on Oct. 17 after Congress passed legislation to fund the government through Jan. 15 and allow the Treasury to borrow money until Feb. 7. A House-Senate conference committee is working to try to resolve disagreements on spending and tax issues in the hopes funding the government for the full budget year, which runs through Sept. 30.

The September foreign holdings report also noted that the Caribbean banking center countries, which include the Bahamas, Bermuda and the Cayman Islands, trimmed their holdings 0.3 percent to \$300.9 billion. Brazil reduced its holdings 1.5 percent to \$249.2 billion. □

Street Beat:

Pressure builds to finish Volcker rule on oversight

PETER EAVIS

BEN PROTESS

© 2013 New York Times

The Obama administration, stumbling through the health care overhaul, has reached a critical stage in its other signature effort: reining in Wall Street.

The push to reshape financial oversight hinges on negotiations in the coming weeks over the Volcker rule, a regulation that

tors - five agencies are writing the rule - has centered on just how stringent to make it.

Some regulators are pushing to close potential loopholes, saying the rule will prevent future trading blowups at big banks, a concern that gained traction when JPMorgan Chase sustained a \$6 billion trading loss in London. Yet some officials at other

agencies are going to issue the Volcker rule," said Donald N. Lamson, a partner at the law firm Shearman & Sterling.

Kara M. Stein, a Democratic commissioner at the SEC who favors a strict Volcker rule, recently submitted a four-page list of requested changes to a current draft of the rule, according to the officials briefed on the negotiations who were not

but everyone is working in good faith along that path" Gensler said in an interview. Gensler is leaving his agency when his term expires at the end of the year.

In recent weeks, officials say, regulators have added language stricter than the initial version of the rule. Lew, according to officials, recently told Wall Street executives at a private meeting that the rule would be tougher than banks once thought.

From the outset, the Volcker rule was the product of compromise. The Obama administration declined to favor legislation forcing banks to spin off their turbulent Wall Street operations from their deposit-taking businesses. At the same time, it did not want regulated banks, which enjoy deposit insurance and other forms of government support, trading for their own profit. That business, known as proprietary trading, had long been a lucrative, albeit risky, business for Wall Street banks.

Paul A. Volcker, a former chairman of the Federal Reserve who served as an adviser to Obama, urged that Dodd-Frank outlaw proprietary trading.

And over the objections of Wall Street, the administration inserted into Dodd-Frank what became known as the Volcker Rule.

The rule, however, does not ban types of trading that are thought to be part of a bank's basic business. Banks can still buy stocks and bonds for their clients - a practice called market making - and place trades that are meant to hedge their risks.

For regulators, the headache comes with finding practical ways to distinguish proprietary trading from the more legitimate practices. If they wrote the exemptions for market making and hedging too loosely, the banks might find loopholes. If they made them too strict, banks might not be able to engage in activities Congress had said were permissible. □



Gary Gensler, chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, an agency working on the Volcker Rule, during a Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs Committee hearing in Washington in July, 2013. The push to reshape financial oversight hinges on negotiations in the coming weeks over the Volcker Rule, a regulation that strikes at the heart of Wall Street risk-taking. (Christopher Gregory/The New York Times)

strikes at the heart of Wall Street risk taking.

The rule, which bans banks from trading for their own gain, has become synonymous with the Dodd-Frank overhaul law that Congress adopted after the financial crisis.

Treasury Secretary Jacob J. Lew has strongly urged federal agencies to finish writing the Volcker rule by the end of the year - more than a year after they had been expected to do so - and President Barack Obama recently stressed the importance of the deadline.

While regulators are optimistic they will complete the rule soon, even after facing a lobbying onslaught from Wall Street, they have little time to overcome the internal wrangling that has stymied them for years.

The tension among regula-

agencies, including the Federal Reserve and the Securities and Exchange Commission, have at times worried that the rule might inhibit banks from activities that are considered important for their health and the functioning of markets.

The tenor of the negotiations underscore how the Volcker rule has emerged as a litmus test of the strength of Dodd-Frank, especially after regulators weakened other rules under that 2010 law. And although the Volcker Rule is only one of 400 regulations to arise from the sweeping overhaul, its symbolic significance has captivated Washington and Wall Street alike.

"Banks and their lawyers are all looking at the calendars wondering when the financial regulatory agen-

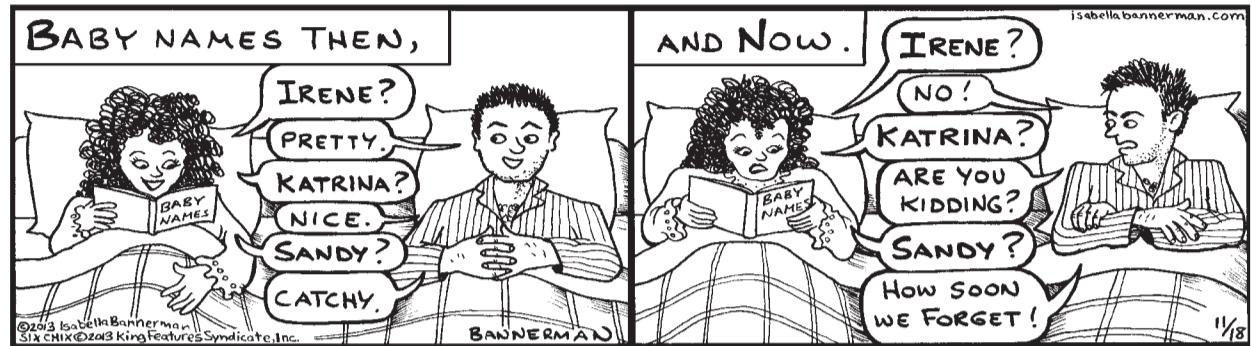
authorized to speak publicly. Stein could hold the swing vote in the five-member commission, with the two Republican commissioners unlikely to support it. Gary Gensler, head of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, also wants to make it harder for banks to disguise speculative wagers as permissible trading done for customers, according to the officials briefed on the discussions. Underscoring the tension, other regulators privately grouched that Gensler's agency - which spent most of the last few years completing dozens of other new rules under Dodd-Frank - was too slow to raise concerns about the Volcker rule.

"This is one of the most challenging rules to get done in a balanced way,

Mutts



6 Chix



Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

9		4			1		7
		5		7			
3			9		1		2
		9		1		8	2
	3		7		4		1
1		6		2		3	
	5		6		9		3
				8		5	
8		4			5		9

Difficulty Level ★

11/18

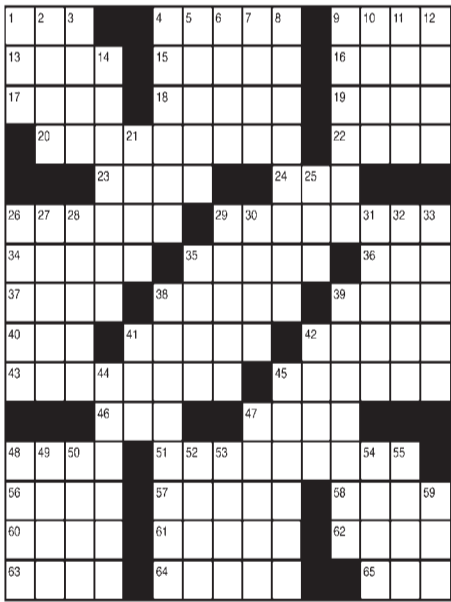
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

4	5	7	2	6	3	8	9	1
9	2	8	7	1	5	4	6	3
6	3	1	4	9	8	7	5	2
2	4	9	3	5	7	6	1	8
1	6	5	9	8	2	3	4	7
7	8	3	6	4	1	5	2	9
8	9	2	5	7	6	1	3	4
5	1	4	8	3	9	2	7	6
3	7	6	1	2	4	9	8	5

Saturday's puzzle answer

ACROSS

- 1 ___jet; type of printer
- 4 Passion
- 9 Dermatologist's concern
- 13 City near Lake Tahoe
- 15 Depart
- 16 Bump ___; meet unexpectedly
- 17 Perched upon
- 18 Word in the names of many bowling alleys
- 19 Require
- 20 Invigorating drug; upper
- 22 Jewels
- 23 Accepted standard
- 24 Lincoln, to pals
- 26 Baseball official
- 29 Cloud over the eye lens
- 34 Low-ranking British peer
- 35 ___ off; diminish gradually
- 36 Misfortune
- 37 Not closed
- 38 Summoned with a beeper
- 39 Renown
- 40 Tavern order
- 41 Stacks
- 42 ___ by surprise; startled
- 43 Predisposition; bent
- 45 Changes one's alarm clock
- 46 Word of disgust
- 47 Cod or carp
- 48 Snow vehicle
- 51 Statement of protest
- 56 Fuel, for some
- 57 Unwilling
- 58 Margarine
- 60 Villain
- 61 Bert's buddy
- 62 Close by
- 63 Broadway award
- 64 Parakeet food
- 65 Sault __, Marie



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

11/18/13

Saturday's Puzzle Solved

JOSE	STRUM	ONTO
UGLY	HOUSE	YAWN
TREE	IDEALISTIC	
SEN	HEAD	STONE
	DAILY	MAE
SPEWED	YEARS	
OARED	FRANC	ELF
LIES	BOARD	STAR
ELS	HOUND	BETTE
STROLL	POLLED	
	AND	WHALE
SPIRO	DOOR	SUM
ALTERATION	MOPE	
FUEL	LEVEE	AMOS
EMMY	LEADS	YENS

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11/18/13

- 33 Adolescents
- 35 Powder
- 38 Tiny punctures
- 39 In ___; stylish
- 41 Cribbage piece
- 42 Exam
- 44 Actor ___ Moore
- 45 Wealth
- 47 Foul-smelling
- 48 Dundee native
- 49 Company's symbol
- 50 Deserve
- 52 Drill a hole
- 53 TV's Pauley
- 54 Bullring cries
- 55 Tidy
- 59 Raw metal

Calmes Column: Dirty secret lurks in 'grand bargain' struggle

JACKIE CALMES

© 2013 New York Times

WASHINGTON - The long-sought bipartisan "grand bargain" on the nation's fiscal future is not going to happen this year, and probably not for the rest of President Barack Obama's term. There is the simple, familiar reason. And then there is the dirty secret.

The simple reason is evident in the all-but-moribund budget negotiations in Congress, where Republicans and Democrats agreed that they would not even try for a long-term deal to reduce the growth of debt in an aging nation. Republicans oppose further tax increases on the rich, as Democrats demand, so Democrats will not support major changes to Medicare and Social Security, as Republicans insist. But the dirty secret - a phrase used independently, and privately, by people in both parties - is that neither side wants to take the actions it demands of the other to achieve a breakthrough.

That is, many Republicans are no more interested in voting to reduce Medicare and Social Security benefits than Democrats are, lest they threaten their party's big advantage among the older voters who dominate the electorate in midterm contests like those in 2014. And Democrats are no more eager than Republicans, with control of both houses of Congress up for grabs, to vote for the large revenue increases that a grand bargain would entail. They do not want to limit popular but costly deductions, as Obama and past bipartisan panels, like his Simpson-Bowles fiscal commission, have proposed. That is especially true for Democrats from states like California and New York where affluent voters value deductions for mortgages on first and second homes, charitable giving and state and local taxes.

"It's a lot harder than you'd think to find Republicans who'd actually want to cut entitlements, or Democrats

who want to raise taxes," said Jared Bernstein, a former economic adviser to Vice President Joe Biden and now a senior fellow at the liberal Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. "The only person who seems to have consistently been interested in a grand bargain is the president, and frankly I'm not even sure about him."

Obama has not pressed the negotiators from the Democratic-controlled Senate and the Republican-led House to aim higher. It would not matter if he did, lawmakers say, particularly given his diminished political standing after weeks of controversies over his Affordable Care Act.

But even a stronger president would be virtually powerless to engineer a multiyear grand bargain now.

Negotiators are struggling just to keep alive their talks for a minimalist compromise, one that would replace the arbitrary across-the-board cuts known as sequestration for the next year or two.

In his budget this year, Obama outlined specific long-term trade-offs on taxes and the entitlement programs - chiefly Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security - to save about \$1.8 trillion over a decade. The savings would come on top of the roughly \$2 trillion in 10-year spending cuts and tax increases that both sides have agreed to

since 2011. Taken together, Obama has proposed a deficit reduction package roughly in line with the Simpson-Bowles recommendations for a 10-year mix of tax increases, reduced spending on entitlement programs, and cuts in military and domestic programs that are budgeted annually.

The only effort this year toward a long-term bipartisan deal was a sputtering series of meetings and dinners, from last winter into the summer, between a group of about a dozen Republican senators and either Obama or his chief of staff, Denis R. McDonough. But while the Republican senators repeatedly called for entitlement savings, they never proposed specific ideas or embraced Obama's, leaving the president to suggest that Democrats were not the only hurdle to curbing the unsustainable growth of entitlement spending.

David Winston, a Republican pollster close to House leaders, said that especially in a slow-growing economy, lawmakers have a hard time selling voters on proposals like fixing Social Security to avoid shortfalls in the 2030s.

"That pressure isn't there," he said. "People are more like, 'I'm in a job where I'm clearly underemployed. How did this happen? How do we resolve underemployment as a problem, as opposed to dealing with Social Security in 2033.'"

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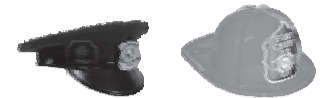
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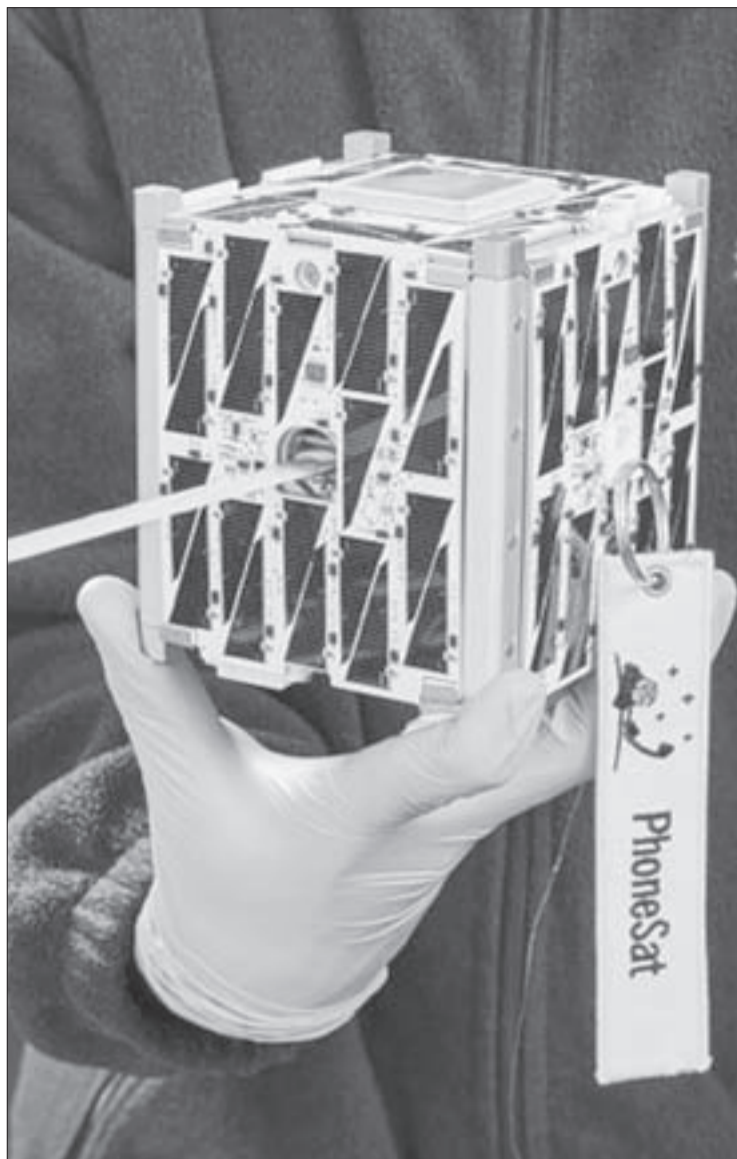
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This undated handout photo provided by NASA Ames Research Center shows NASA's PhoneSat, a four by four-inch "cubesat" that will use an Android smartphone as its "motherboard."
Associated Press

U.S. rocket launch to send smartphone into orbit

SETH BORENSTEIN
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Much of the U.S. East Coast is expected to get a view of a mid-Atlantic rocket launch Tuesday night, when the Air Force and NASA will try to put 29 tiny satellites into orbit, including a smartphone and a satellite built by students. The launch of the privately built Minotaur rocket is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. (0030 GMT) from NASA's

Wallops Island, Virginia, launch site. Weather permitting, it should be possible to see it from Jacksonville to Maine and Montreal and as far west as Detroit and Dayton. The Orbital Sciences Corporation rocket is launching as an Air Force test program, carrying small satellites. One is an ordinary smartphone NASA converted and another was built by students at Thomas Jefferson High School in Alexandria, Virginia. □

A glance at coal and its role in climate change

KARL RITTER

Associated Press

WARSAW, Poland (AP) — Coal took center stage in the global warming debate on Monday as a high-profile coal industry event kicked off on the sidelines of a U.N. climate conference in Warsaw.

Environmental activists were outraged, saying coal is the problem, not

greenhouse gas, coal is a leading cause of smog, acid rain and air pollution. Governments have been trying to manage the environmental impact of coal burning ever since smoke pollution became a major problem in English cities in the 19th century.

HOW MUCH CO2 EMISSIONS COME FROM COAL?

Of all energy sources, coal

sive and have so far not been put to widespread use.

IF COAL IS SO DIRTY WHY ARE WE STILL BURNING IT?

Since the industrial revolution coal has been a double-edged sword for humanity, powering economic growth while polluting the environment. Even now that the climate impact is known, coal-reliant



Young girls protest in front of the Polish Ministry of Economy in Warsaw, Monday Nov. 18, 2013 where a Coal Industry meeting is taking place in Warsaw, Poland, Monday, Nov. 18, 2013.

Associated Press

the solution to climate change.

Poland, which is presiding over both conferences, says the coal industry needs to be part of the climate discourse because a lot of coal-reliant countries — Poland included — will depend on the fossil fuel for a long time.

Here are some quick facts about coal and the carbon pollution the world is releasing by burning it:

WHAT IS COAL?

Coal is a fossil fuel that formed over time from the remains of plants that died millions of years ago. It contains energy that those plants once absorbed from the sun.

WHY DO SOME PEOPLE CALL IT A "DIRTY" FUEL?

Apart from being a major contributor to emissions of CO₂, the most important

is the dirtiest in terms of carbon pollution. In 2011, about 44 percent of total energy emissions came from coal, compared to 35 percent from oil and just over 20 percent from natural gas, according to the International Energy Agency.

HOW CAN YOU REDUCE EMISSIONS FROM COAL?

U.N. climate chief Christiana Figueres offered one alternative Monday: leave the coal in the ground. But the reality is a lot of countries with coal resources are not ready to give it up as an energy source. Instead, they are looking for ways to reduce emissions by improving the efficiency of coal-fired plants or adopting technologies that trap the CO₂ for storage underground. These technologies are expen-

countries are reluctant to give it up, fearing it would hurt their economies. Even though China — the world's biggest carbon polluter — is investing in renewable energy, its coal use is also rising because of the huge demand for energy as its economy expands, lifting millions of people out of poverty.

WHO BURNS THE MOST COAL?

China is the world's biggest producer and consumer of coal. Coal accounted for 68 percent Chinese energy consumption in 2012, according to the Center for International Climate and Environmental Research, Oslo. The U.S. also is a top coal producer, but domestic coal use is declining as some power plants have switched to lower-priced natural gas. □

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This July 22, 2012 file photo shows U.S. singer-songwriter Bob Dylan performing on at "Les Vieilles Charrues" Festival in Carhaix, western France.

Associated Press

New video coming for Bob Dylan's 'Like a Rolling Stone'

NEW YORK (AP) — Bob Dylan's "Like a Rolling Stone" is getting its first official music video, nearly 50 years after the song was released.

The interactive video will premiere on Dylan's website Tuesday and marks the release of the new 47-disc box set, "The Complete Album Collection Volume 1." "Like a Rolling Stone" came out in 1965 and remains one of the Rock and

Roll Hall of Fame singer-songwriter's most influential songs.

The video will allow viewers to switch between 16 different story lines that mimic television channels. The actors and hosts on each of these channels lip-sync the lyrics to the song and viewers can move from one to another during the song seamlessly. There is a Dylan channel as well that features vintage footage. □

Journey donates \$350K in Typhoon Haiyan relief

NEW YORK (AP) — Journey is donating \$350,000 to help relief efforts in the Philippines, and its lead singer has a message for his homeland: "Don't Stop Believin'." Arnel Pineda and the rest of the band announced the donation on Friday. It will go to the United Nations World Food Programme, which is providing Filipinos with food assistance. The donation should provide 1.4 million meals. In a statement, Pineda referenced the group's famous "Believin'" song and said "help is on the way." Journey made the donation along with Live Nation Entertainment, Creative Artists Agency and their manager, John



Jonathan Cain, left, Arnel Pineda, center, and Neal Schon of the rock band Journey take part in a panel discussion on the Independent Lens documentary "Don't Stop Believin': Everyman's Journey," at the PBS Summer 2013 TCA press tour at the Beverly Hilton Hotel on Tuesday, Aug. 6, 2013, in Beverly Hills, Calif.

Associated Press

Baruck. The Philippines were devastated by Typhoon Haiyan, which has left more than 3,600 dead

and displaced 600,000, according to authorities. Journey is also calling on fans to donate to the cause. □

Keanu Reeves film based on true Japanese story

YURIKO NAGANO
Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — The director of the Keanu Reeves 3-D film "47 Ronin" says he hopes his adaptation of a true Japanese story becomes a Hollywood blockbuster.

Film director Carl Rinsch, Reeves and co-stars appeared together in front of a Tokyo audience on Monday.

The film is based on an actual historical event during the Edo Period known as "Chushingura." It involved a lord who was wrongfully put to death and his followers — ronin — who sought revenge.

Rinsch said he took on the film subject and sat down with Keanu Reeves about two years ago. They wondered how they were going to take on a popular Japanese tale and do it justice. Rinsch said they decided to make the story their own, making "it a Hollywood blockbuster and see it through that lens."

"These themes of revenge, loyalty, perseverance, were things we knew from the very beginning were



Keanu Reeves attends a press conference to promote his latest film '47 RONIN' in Tokyo, Japan, Monday, Nov. 18, 2013.

Associated Press

universal," said Rinsch, who is making his directorial feature debut with the film.

Japanese actor Hiroyuki Sanada stars as the main supporting character, Kuranosuke Oishi, a leader of the men. Sanada said that during the filming Reeves became more and more of a samurai, while the character he played became more "wild" in style.

Sanada said Reeves and himself hoped to depict the friendship of two characters, which transcended

borders and social positions, in the film.

Reeves said "47 Ronin" is a story where people "share this journey to reclaim their land, their honor, their way. It was very special to me to be part of it."

Reeves, who grew up attracted to martial arts movies, makes his directorial debut this year with the martial arts action movie "Man of Tai Chi."

The film "47 Ronin" premieres in Japan on Dec. 6 and opens in U.S. theaters on Dec. 25. □

Paul Simon, Stephen Sondheim to share stage December 3

NEW YORK (AP) — It is a triple billing for the ages, one night only: Paul Simon, Stephen Sondheim and Michael Chabon.

The subject will be words and music.

Chabon, the Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, will host a discussion among himself and the two celebrated composers. Announced Monday by the MacDowell Colony for artists, the event will be held Dec. 3 at the New Museum of Contemporary Art in New York City.

Chabon is chairman of MacDowell. □



This Dec. 6, 2010 file photo shows author Michael Chabon posing for a photo in New York. Chabon, the Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, will host a discussion among himself and the two celebrated composers.

Associated Press

Washington's 'Scandal' closet holds many outfits

SAMANTHA CRITCHELL

AP Fashion Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Notice anything different about Olivia Pope's look this season on "Scandal"?

It's still full of the very best designer labels, and her suits — a good chunk of her wardrobe — blend an aggressive edge with a sexy shape while staying professional.

But in Season 3, there's a hint more color, and many of the silhouettes are asymmetrical, showing her just a bit off-kilter. "Hopefully viewers will see the emotional reason to make these changes, and we've amped up the fashion, too, because we needed it for the story," explains costume designer Lyn Paolo.

Olivia has a full life and — just like everyone else — needs the right clothes for it, says Paolo, who talks about her favorite character on ABC's hit inside-the-Beltway show (Thursdays at 10 p.m. EST) as if she were real.

Kerry Washington, a fashion It Girl in her own right, plays Olivia, described by the network as a "professional fixer."

The show has to buy the



In this Nov. 11, 2013 image released by ABC, costume designer Lyn Paolo stands with costumes for the ABC drama series, "Scandal," in the show's wardrobe closet on the Sunset Gower lot in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles.

Associated Press

clothes and keep them because Paolo is unsure if creator Shonda Rhimes will want to revisit a particular

scene in a flashback. As a result, Olivia's closet is as big as the Manhattan Starbucks where Paolo met a

reporter.

Paolo shops from the runway, at department stores, from windows and online. When she was on vacation this past summer on a cruise, she fell in love with a fellow passenger's outfit. She told the passenger the clothing tag was showing (it wasn't) so she could "fix it" and steal a peek at the label.

Is there anything in that bulging "Scandal" closet that Paolo would like to borrow? "I'm a uniform girl. I dislike dressing myself. It's all black and white in my closet — I wear whatever is easiest to get me through the day."

She is, after all, dressing up to 80 people per episode. "We should call it 'Scramble' not 'Scandal.'"

Olivia was easy, though. Paolo had her look down before she knew Washington would be the star — and maybe even before "Scandal" was pitched as a pilot. Paolo, whose credits also include "The West Wing" and "ER," says she keeps dozens of files on

imaginary characters, cutting out photos and jotting down notes about what they would wear and stuffing them into folders. One was "an African-American woman in light clothes and a custom Louise Green hat," she said. "I had an image of Diana Ross. I would have liked a bigger brim on the hat, but our sets are too dark and you couldn't see Kerry's face."

Paolo also works on Showtime's "Shameless," and her problem there is that the characters are supposed to have a gritty appearance, but Emmy Rossum, the most fashion-y of the cast, is a little model-like, she says. "You'll look at her and say, 'She looks too good in that!'" There are other stars that Paolo would like the opportunity to dress, including Patricia Heaton and Julianna Margulies, whom she calls "so elegant and stylish."

"I have characters and their wardrobes ready to go. I just need a show for them." □

Emerson College to name school after Ron Burgundy

BOSTON (AP) — It's kind of a big deal that Emerson College is changing the name of its school of communication.

The college in Boston will rename the school — for one day only — the Ron Burgundy School of Communication on Dec. 4 to honor the fictitious television anchorman.

Actor Will Ferrell, in character, is scheduled to share his path to journalism greatness with students. His visit will include a news conference, the renaming ceremony and a screening of "Anchorman 2: The Legend Continues." Ferrell, as himself, will introduce the movie.

College President Lee Pelton says Burgundy "under-



This 2004 file photo originally released by Paramount Pictures shows Will Ferrell as anchorman Ron Burgundy in "Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy."

Associated Press

stands the power of media, as well as hairspray, firsthand."

Burgundy, known for telling people he's "kind of a big

deal," says he hopes to let students know how hard it is to make it to the top, in his words, "especially if you don't have good hair." □

Who's Sorry Now?



GAIL COLLINS
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President Barack Obama's loyal supporters are heavy of heart. Perhaps their chief source of comfort is that the Obamacare mess hit the headlines at about the same time as the crack-smoking mayor of Toronto. At least the president didn't claim he was drunk when he wrote the health care bill.

Obama, obviously not a guy who enjoys self-abasement, has been on an apology tour. He sat down with NBC News and said he was sorry that people whose health insurance plans were canceled "are finding themselves in this situation, based on assurances they got from me."

While far from emotionally satisfying, this did rise a tad above the classic blame-the-victim apology. (See football player Richie Incognito on his racist phone call to a black teammate: "... I'd apologize to his family. They took it as malicious. I never meant it that way.")

The chaos surrounding the rollout of health care reform is a terrible blow to people who've been standing behind the president through thin and thin. They had already come to grips with the fact that the guy who once taught constitutional law wasn't going to protect their privacy from government snoops. That their old peace candidate really loved the idea of shooting people down with drones. That he was probably never going to be able to deliver on serious immigration reform, or gun control or even expanded preschool. But there was still affordable health care, a goal that had been eluding presidents since Teddy Roosevelt, which had required so many breathtaking leaps of political faith to pass and protect. One achievement so big it was pretty much enough.

And then the website didn't work and long-standing promises were broken and the whole thing was turning into a joke on the Country Music Association Awards.

"I think it's fair to say that the rollout has been rough so far," the president said at the start of his news conference Thursday. I think it's fair to say that is an understatement.

Obama also acknowledged that when Americans had problems with the website "that's on

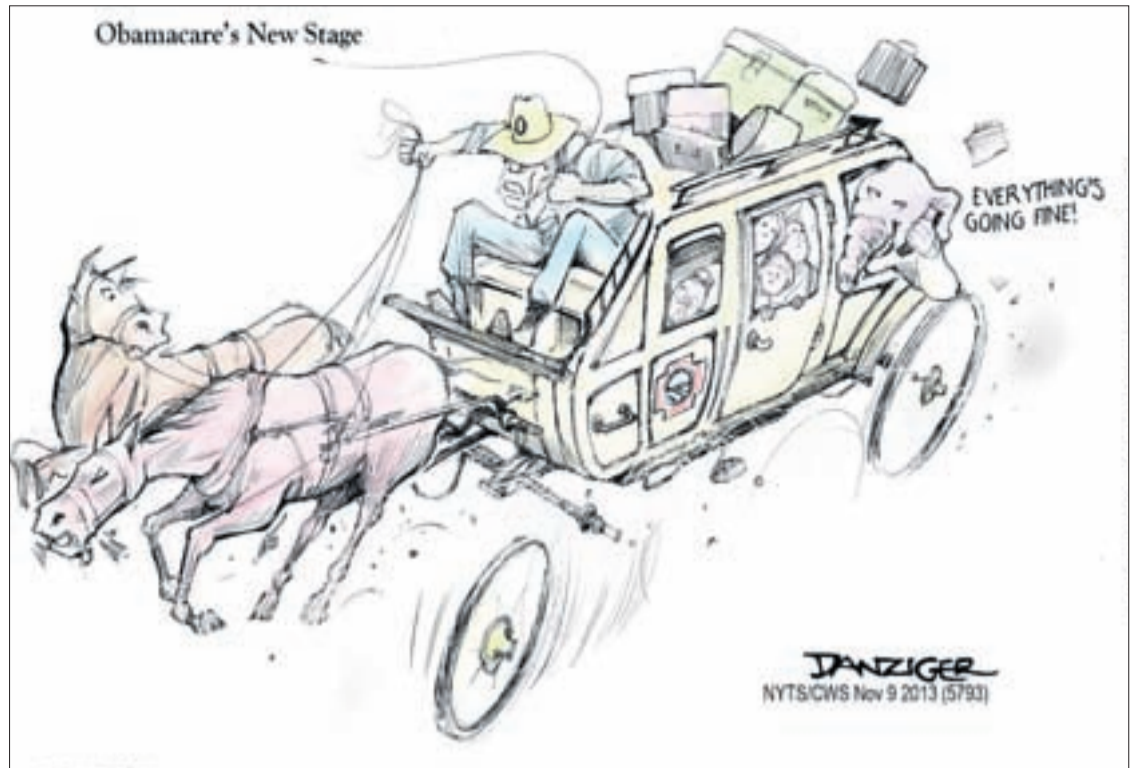
us, not on them." Later, when he began taking questions from reporters and got into full-throttle apology mode, he offered up six versions of "That's on us," along with more wordy variations. ("Ultimately, I'm the president of the United States and they expect me to do something about it.")

Taking responsibility is extremely popular in these circumstances. It makes you appear to be strong while stating the obvious. If all of Washington had not been eaten by zombies at the beginning of the movie "World War Z," the president could easily have gone on TV and told the nation: "Undead mutants are flooding the planet. Our troops are hitting them with everything we've got, but they're still coming. In the end, that's on me." The public is so inured to responsibility-taking by executives under fire that it's little more than a polite reflex, like "thank you for your service." George W. Bush took responsibility for the Katrina foul-ups, for heaven sake.

Presidents have generally been bad about apologies. See: Richard Nixon resigning. ("I would say only that if some of my judgments were wrong, and some were wrong, they were made in what I believed at the time to be the best interest of the nation.") Bill Clinton was more forthcoming when he apologized for lying about Monica Lewinsky. ("I misled people, including even my wife.") But he had a little help from a grand jury. George W. Bush still hasn't said he's sorry for getting us into Iraq, although, in his book "Decision Points," W. did express deep, deep regret that there weren't any weapons of mass destruction, because it threw a shadow over what he still sees as a really excellent undertaking. (Second point of comfort on the Obamacare rollout: not as bad as the war in Iraq.)

We haven't seen a whole lot of truly satisfying apologies on a high level; it's been more than half a century since a British official who lied about an adulterous fling showed how sorry he was by going off to clean toilets for the poor. The best we can generally hope for is a specific explanation of how the politician in question screwed up, and how he's going to make it right. At his news conference, the president noted - kind of bragged, really - that the Obama campaign had been spot-on when it came to information technology. Then he complained that the way the federal government purchases IT "is cumbersome, complicated and outdated."

Since he already knew "that the federal government has not been good at this stuff in the past," Obama continued, his crack advisers should have prepared to go around that problem "two years ago" when planning for the rollout began. Yes! "... But that doesn't help us now. We've got to move forward." Sigh. □



Disrespect, Race And Obama



CHARLES M. BLOW
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In an interview with the BBC this week, Oprah Winfrey said of President Barack Obama: "There is a level of disrespect for the office that occurs. And that occurs, in some cases, and maybe even many cases, because he's African-American." With that remark, Winfrey touched on an issue that many Americans have wrestled with: To what extent does this president's race animate those loyal to him and those opposed? Is race a primary motivator or a subordinate, more elusive one, tainting motivations but not driving them?

To some degree, the answers lie with the questioners. There are different perceptions of racial realities. What some see as slights, others see as innocent opposition.

But there are some objective truths here. Racism is a virus that is growing clever at avoiding detection. Race consciousness is real. Racial assumptions and prejudices are real. And racism is real. But these realities can operate without articulation and beneath awareness. For those reasons, some can see racism where it is absent, and others can willfully ignore any possibility that it could ever be present.

To wit, Rush Limbaugh responded to Winfrey's comments in his usual acerbic way, lacking all nuance:

"If black people in this country are so mistreated and so disrespected, how in the name of Sam Hill did you happen? Would somebody explain that to me? If there's a level of disrespect simply because he's black, then how, Oprah, have you managed to become the - at one time - most popular and certainly wealthiest television personality? How does that happen?"

No one has ever accused Limbaugh of being a complex thinker, but the intellectual deficiency required to achieve that level of arrogance and ignorance is staggering. Anyone with even a child's grasp of race understands that for many minorities success isn't synonymous with the absence of obstacles, but often requires the overcoming of obstacles. Furthermore, being willing to be entertained by someone isn't the same as being willing to be led by them.

And finally, affinity and racial animosity can dwell together in the same soul. You can like and even admire a person of another race while simultaneously disparaging the race as a whole. One can even be attracted to persons of different races and still harbor racial animus toward their group. Generations of sexual predation and miscegenation during and after slavery in this country have taught us that. Alas, simpletons have simple understandings of complex concepts.

But it is reactions like Limbaugh's that lead many of the president's supporters to believe that racial sensitivity is in retreat and racial hostility is on the rise. To be sure, the Internet is rife with examples of derogatory, overtly racial comments and imagery referring to the president and his family.

But the question remains: Are we seeing an increase in racial hostility or simply an elevation - or uncovering - of it? And are those racist attitudes isolated or do they represent a serious

problem?

Much of the discussion about the president, his opposition and his race has centered on the Tea Party, fairly or not.

In one take on race and the Tea Party that went horribly wrong this week, Washington Post opinion writer Richard Cohen wrote:

"Today's GOP is not racist, as Harry Belafonte alleged about the Tea Party, but it is deeply troubled - about the expansion of government, about immigration, about secularism, about the mainstreaming of what used to be the avant-garde. People with conventional views must repress a gag reflex when considering the mayor-elect of New York - a white man married to a black woman and with two biracial children. (Should I mention that Bill de Blasio's wife, Chirlane McCray, used to be a lesbian?) This family represents the cultural changes that have enveloped parts - but not all - of America. To cultural conservatives, this doesn't look like their country at all."

What exactly are "conventional views" in this context? They appear to refer specifically to opinions about the color of people's skin.

Cohen seemed to want to recast racial intolerance - and sexual identity discomfort - in a more humane light: as an extension of traditional values rather than as an artifact of traditional bigotry. In addition, Cohen's attempt to absolve the entirety of the Tea Party without proof fails in the same way that blanket condemnations do. Overreach is always the enemy.

I don't know what role, if any, race plays in the feelings of Tea Party supporters. It is impossible to know the heart of another person (unless they unambiguously reveal themselves), let alone the hearts of millions.

But nerves are raw, antennas are up and race has become a lightning rod in the Obama era. This is not Obama's doing, but the simple result of his being. □

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